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EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES: FOURTH QUARTER 1989

In the fourth quarter of 1989, there were 49.9 million families with at least one full-time worker, an increase of 1.3 million from a year earlier, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The median wage and salary earnings of families rose 5.4 percent to $639 per week over this period. Other highlights follow.

---The number of families with at least one employed member, either full or part time, rose by 700,000 over the year to a level of 53.3 million in the fourth quarter, accounting for four-fifths of all families. Just 10.8 million families had no member in the labor force; in three-fifths of these nonworking families, everyone was at least 60 years old. (See tables A and 1.)

---About 4.7 million families had an unemployed member, about the same number as a year ago. In most of these families--71 percent--there also was someone working. (See table 3.)

---Of the 31.9 million families with children under the age of 18, about 19.8 million had an employed mother, 500,000 more than a year earlier. This gain was divided evenly between mothers of pre-schoolers and mothers of school-age children. (See table 4.)

---The median weekly earnings of married-couple families with wage and salary workers rose 4.5 percent over the year to reach $715. Nearly two-thirds of these families had two or more earners, for whom median earnings were $855. Median earnings of families maintained by women ($348) remained about half those of married-couple families, in part because only one-third have more than one earner. (See table 6.)

NOTE: In addition to data for the fourth quarter of 1989, this release includes data on family earnings for the third quarter, which were not available as part of the November 8, 1989, release of third-quarter data on the employment characteristics of families (USDL 89-534). This release also presents three tables of annual averages (1988 and 1989) on family employment patterns and weekly earnings. (See tables 8 through 10.)

---Median earnings of white families ($667) continued to exceed those for Hispanic families ($481) and black families ($453). These differences are explained both by the higher earnings of white workers and relatively fewer multi-earner families among blacks and Hispanics. (See table 6.)

Table A. Summary labor force characteristics of families, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	IV 1988	IV 1989	Change
Total families	64,674	65,409	735
With employed member(s)	52,597	53,255	658
Percent of total families	81.3	81.4	.1
With member(s) employed full time	48,642	49,894	1,252
Percent of total families	75.2	76.3	1.1
With unemployed member(s)	4,664	4,663	-1
Percent with employed member(s)	70.3	71.3	1.0
Percent of total families	7.2	7.1	-.1
With unemployed member(s), none employed	1,384	1,340	-44
Percent of total families	2.1	2.0	-.1
With no members in labor force	10,693	10,814	121
Percent with no members under 60 years old	61.5	61.9	.4
Percent of total families	16.5	16.5	-
With children under 18 years old	31,435	31,866	431
Percent with employed parent(s)	88.9	89.0	.1
Percent with employed mother	61.4	62.0	.6
Percent of total families	48.6	48.7	.1
With children under 6 year old	14,479	14,863	384
Percent with employed parent(s)	87.8	87.7	-.1
Percent with employed mother	53.7	54.0	.3
Percent of total families	22.4	22.7	.3

Explanatory Note

The estimates in this release were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), which provides basic information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment. The survey is conducted monthly for the Bureau of Labor Statistics by the Bureau of the Census from a scientifically selected national sample of about 60,000 households, with coverage in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The earnings data are collected from one-quarter of the CPS monthly sample and are limited to wages and salaries. The data, therefore, exclude self-employed income.

Reliability

In any sample survey, variations in the data can occur by chance because a sample, rather than the whole of the population, is surveyed. The standard error is a measure of such potential variation. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the survey differs from a figure that would be obtained from a complete census by less than one standard error. The chances are about 90 out of 100 that such a difference would be less than 1.6 standard errors. All statements of comparisons in the text of this release are significant at 1.6 or more standard errors.

Standard errors for numbers and proportions of families can be approximated using tables found in the Household Data section of the Explanatory Notes in *Employment and Earnings*. Representative standard errors for median family earnings are available from BLS upon request.

Definitions

The principal definitions used in this release are described briefly below.

Family. A family is a group of two or more persons residing together who are related by blood, marriage, or adoption. The count of families is for "primary" families only, that is, the householder and all other persons related to and residing with the householder. Not included are unrelated subfamilies. Families are classified either as married-couple families or families maintained by women or men without spouses.

Householder. A householder is the person in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented.

Children. Children are defined as "own" children, that is never-married sons, daughters, stepchildren, and adopted children. Excluded are other related children, such as nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and cousins, and unrelated children.

Employed. Employed persons are all civilians who during the survey week: (a) Did any work at all as paid employees; (b) worked in their own business or profession or on their own farms; or (c) worked 15 hours or more as an unpaid worker in a family- operated enterprise. Also included are those who were temporarily absent from their jobs because of illness, vacation, bad weather, labor-management disputes, or personal reasons.

Full-time workers. Persons who usually work 35 hours or more per week on their sole or principal job. Persons who work less than 35 hours are part-time workers.

Unemployed. The unemployed are persons who had no employment during the survey week, were available for work at that time, and made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the prior 4 weeks. Persons laid off from their former jobs and awaiting recall and those expecting to report to a job within 30 days need not be looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

Civilian labor force. The civilian labor force is the sum of the employed and the unemployed.

Wage and salary workers. Workers who receive wages, salaries, commissions, tips, payment in kind, or piece rates. Persons who report themselves as self-employed, including those whose businesses are incorporated, are excluded from coverage in these earnings data.

Usual weekly earnings. Data on usual weekly earnings are provided from responses to the questions, "How much does...USUALLY earn per week at this job before deductions? Include any overtime pay, commissions, or tips usually received." The response is for the worker's sole or principal job, and the term "usual" is as perceived by the respondent. If the respondent asks for a definition of "usual," interviewers are instructed to define the term as more than half the weeks worked during the past 4 or 5 months.

Median weekly earnings. The median of weekly earnings is the value at which 50 percent of the earnings distribution lies above and 50 percent lies below. The estimating procedure places each reported earnings value into intervals which are centered around multiples of $50. The actual value is calculated through linear interpolation of the interval in which the median lies.

Over-the-year changes in the medians for component groups may not necessarily be consistent with the changes estimated for the overall median and therefore are not presented in this release. Circumstances under which this can occur include: (1) Even though medians of component groups may rise, if the lower-earnings group accounts for a sufficiently increased share of the total, the overall median can rise less than for any of the groups; and (2) survey observations tend to be clustered at rounded values, such as $250, $300, and $400, and an estimated median lying in a $50-wide centered interval containing such a cluster changes more slowly than one in non-clustered intervals. For example, if the medians for component groups are not in a cluster but the overall group median is, then the increase in the overall median will be less than for the components.

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Table 1. Families by employment status of members, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	IV 1988	IV 1989	IV 1988	IV 1989
TOTAL				
Total families	64,674	65,409	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	10,693	10,814	16.5	16.5
With at least one member in the labor force	53,981	54,595	83.5	83.5
No member employed	1,384	1,340	2.1	2.0
Some member employed	52,597	53,255	81.3	81.4
No one unemployed	49,317	49,932	76.3	76.3
One or more employed full time	45,775	46,898	70.8	71.7
Some member unemployed	3,280	3,323	5.1	5.1
One or more employed full time	2,867	2,996	4.4	4.6
White				
Total families	55,570	56,028	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	9,076	9,129	16.3	16.3
With at least one member in the labor force	46,495	46,899	83.7	83.7
No member employed	919	846	1.7	1.5
Some member employed	45,576	46,053	82.0	82.2
No one unemployed	42,961	43,449	77.3	77.5
One or more employed full time	40,041	40,918	72.1	73.0
Some member unemployed	2,615	2,604	4.7	4.6
One or more employed full time	2,302	2,359	4.1	4.2
Black				
Total families	7,233	7,341	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	1,363	1,427	18.8	19.4
With at least one member in the labor force	5,870	5,914	81.2	80.6
No member employed	419	454	5.8	6.2
Some member employed	5,451	5,460	75.4	74.4
No one unemployed	4,868	4,854	67.3	66.1
One or more employed full time	4,351	4,462	60.2	60.8
Some member unemployed	583	606	8.1	8.3
One or more employed full time	492	533	6.8	7.3
Hispanic origin				
Total families	4,765	4,847	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	635	655	13.3	13.5
With at least one member in the labor force	4,130	4,193	86.7	86.5
No member employed	168	150	3.5	3.1
Some member employed	3,962	4,043	83.1	83.4
No one unemployed	3,605	3,612	75.7	74.5
One or more employed full time	3,323	3,414	69.7	70.4
Some member unemployed	357	431	7.5	8.9
One or more employed full time	313	393	6.6	8.1

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 2. Families by employment status of members and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	IV 1988	IV 1989	IV 1988	IV 1989
Married-couple families	50,881	51,402	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	7,778	7,832	15.3	15.2
With at least one member in the labor force	43,103	43,570	84.7	84.8
No member employed	599	561	1.2	1.1
Some member employed	42,504	43,009	83.5	83.7
Husband only	10,921	10,868	21.5	21.1
Wife only	2,361	2,396	4.6	4.7
Husband and wife	25,421	26,121	50.0	50.8
Husband and wife only	20,204	21,153	39.7	41.2
Other combinations	3,801	3,623	7.5	7.0
Families maintained by women	10,986	11,167	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	2,613	2,677	23.8	24.0
With at least one member in the labor force	8,373	8,489	76.2	76.0
No member employed	672	674	6.1	6.0
Some member employed	7,701	7,815	70.1	70.0
Householder employed	6,379	6,420	58.1	57.5
Householder only	3,929	4,062	35.8	36.4
Householder and other(s)	2,450	2,358	22.3	21.1
Other combinations	1,322	1,395	12.0	12.5
Families maintained by men	2,807	2,841	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	302	305	10.8	10.7
With at least one member in the labor force	2,505	2,536	89.2	89.3
No member employed	113	105	4.0	3.7
Some member employed	2,392	2,431	85.2	85.6
Householder employed	2,037	2,118	72.6	74.6
Householder only	1,079	1,150	38.4	40.5
Householder and other(s)	958	968	34.1	34.1
Other combinations	355	313	12.6	11.0

Table 3. Families with unemployed members by type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	IV 1988	IV 1989	IV 1988	IV 1989
Families with unemployment	4,664	4,663	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	3,280	3,323	70.3	71.3
With no members employed	1,384	1,340	29.7	28.7
Married-couple families	3,155	3,174	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	2,556	2,614	81.0	82.4
With no members employed	599	561	19.0	17.7
With husband unemployed	1,177	1,141	37.3	35.9
Wife employed	664	660	21.0	20.8
Other(s) employed	62	74	2.0	2.3
No one employed	451	406	14.3	12.8
With wife unemployed	866	981	27.4	30.9
Husband employed	788	898	25.0	28.3
Other(s) employed	12	13	.4	.4
No one employed	66	70	2.1	2.2
With other member(s) unemployed	1,112	1,053	35.2	33.2
Families maintained by women	1,221	1,231	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	549	557	45.0	45.2
With no members employed	672	674	55.0	54.8
With householder unemployed	533	544	43.7	44.2
Other(s) employed	74	86	6.1	7.0
No one employed	459	458	37.6	37.2
With other member(s) unemployed	688	687	56.3	55.8
Families maintained by men	288	257	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	175	152	60.8	59.1
With no members employed	113	105	39.2	40.9
With householder unemployed	126	116	43.8	45.1
Other(s) employed	42	42	14.6	16.3
No one employed	84	74	29.2	28.8
With other member(s) unemployed	162	141	56.3	54.9

Table 4. Families with children under 18 years old by the employment status of parent(s) and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(In thousands)

Characteristic	IV 1988			IV 1989		
	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old
Total families	31,435	16,956	14,479	31,866	17,002	14,863
Married-couple families	23,899	12,322	11,577	24,028	12,289	11,738
With employed parent(s)	22,997	11,836	11,161	23,190	11,849	11,341
Neither unemployed	22,068	11,357	10,711	22,232	11,373	10,859
Father employed	7,200	2,861	4,339	7,005	2,706	4,299
Mother employed	467	321	146	453	292	162
Both employed	14,401	8,175	6,226	14,774	8,375	6,398
One unemployed	929	480	449	958	476	482
Father unemployed	405	230	175	356	202	154
Mother unemployed	524	250	274	602	274	328
With no employed parent	902	485	416	836	440	397
Father unemployed	251	99	152	244	98	146
Mother unemployed	29	22	7	24	15	9
Both unemployed	87	32	55	61	29	32
Neither in labor force	535	332	202	507	298	210
Families maintained by women	6,431	3,917	2,514	6,667	4,001	2,667
Mother employed	4,039	2,806	1,233	4,174	2,868	1,306
Mother not employed	2,392	1,111	1,281	2,494	1,132	1,361
Unemployed	449	218	231	452	225	227
Not in labor force	1,943	893	1,050	2,042	907	1,134
Families maintained by men	1,104	717	387	1,171	712	458
Father employed	922	598	324	1,001	609	392
Father not employed	182	119	64	170	103	67
Unemployed	63	35	29	58	32	26
Not in labor force	119	84	35	112	71	41
Total families with unemployed parents	1,808	886	923	1,797	875	922

Table 5. Employment status of persons in families by family relationship, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	IV 1988					IV 1989				
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed			Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed		
			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)
TOTAL										
In families	148,419	66.4	5,063	5.1	67.8	149,208	66.9	5,182	5.2	69.3
In married-couple families	122,492	67.0	3,434	4.2	77.8	122,904	67.6	3,485	4.2	80.5
Husbands	50,881	78.2	1,177	3.0	61.7	51,401	78.2	1,141	2.8	64.4
Wives	50,881	57.8	996	3.4	81.5	51,401	58.7	1,074	3.6	85.8
Other family member(s)	20,730	62.3	1,261	9.8	89.8	20,102	63.3	1,270	10.0	90.6
In families maintained by women	20,349	61.7	1,326	10.6	44.1	20,675	61.7	1,415	11.1	44.5
Householder	10,986	62.9	533	7.7	13.9	11,167	62.4	544	7.6	15.9
Other family member(s)	9,363	60.2	793	14.1	64.4	9,508	60.8	[illegible]	15.1	62.5
In families maintained by men	5,579	70.6	304	7.7	59.2	5,629	71.2	[illegible]	7.1	55.5
Householder	2,807	77.1	126	5.8	33.0	2,841	78.6	116	5.2	36.1
Other family member(s)	2,772	64.0	178	10.0	77.4	2,788	63.5	167	9.4	69.2
White										
In families	127,419	66.8	3,761	4.4	71.2	127,690	67.3	3,738	4.3	73.5
In married-couple families	109,400	67.0	2,840	3.9	77.8	109,564	67.6	2,837	3.8	80.5
Husbands	45,915	78.2	979	2.7	61.5	46,271	78.3	956	2.6	64.2
Wives	45,847	57.1	836	3.2	81.9	46,248	58.0	897	3.3	86.0
Other family member(s)	17,638	63.7	1,025	9.1	89.9	17,045	64.6	984	8.9	91.3
In families maintained by women	13,758	63.6	717	8.2	47.6	13,719	63.5	684	7.8	50.0
Householder	7,503	63.7	264	5.5	17.9	7,505	63.5	250	5.3	21.9
Other family member(s)	6,255	63.6	453	11.4	65.2	6,214	63.7	434	11.0	66.0
In families maintained by men	4,261	71.6	204	6.7	61.8	4,407	73.2	215	6.7	57.2
Householder	2,140	78.4	85	5.1	36.4	2,242	80.1	89	5.0	34.9
Other family member(s)	2,121	64.8	119	8.7	79.8	2,165	66.0	126	8.8	72.9
Black										
In families	16,127	63.9	1,164	11.3	57.4	16,428	63.7	1,275	12.2	56.7
In married-couple families	9,008	67.7	491	8.1	79.2	9,197	67.8	512	8.2	82.0
Husbands	3,491	76.7	166	6.2	64.5	3,579	75.8	143	5.3	70.3
Wives	3,414	65.4	127	5.7	79.1	3,512	66.5	133	5.7	83.9
Other family member(s)	2,103	56.4	198	16.7	92.1	2,106	56.5	236	19.9	87.5
In families maintained by women	6,055	57.8	588	16.8	39.6	6,331	57.9	706	19.3	39.2
Householder	3,210	61.5	259	13.1	10.0	3,321	60.2	281	14.1	10.7
Other family member(s)	2,845	53.6	329	21.6	62.9	3,010	55.5	425	25.4	58.3
In families maintained by men	1,064	66.1	86	12.2	54.7	900	62.9	57	10.1	(1)
Householder	546	71.6	36	9.2	(1)	461	71.8	22	6.5	(1)
Other family member(s)	518	60.2	50	15.9	(1)	439	53.4	35	14.9	(1)
Hispanic origin										
In families	11,308	66.0	585	7.8	65.6	11,602	65.6	623	8.2	71.7
In married-couple families	8,498	66.8	412	7.3	69.7	8,734	66.8	447	7.6	78.7
Husbands	3,292	85.8	144	5.1	49.0	3,401	84.7	162	5.6	58.8
Wives	3,390	51.8	105	6.0	68.9	3,451	62.0	122	6.8	86.7
Other family member(s)	1,816	60.5	163	14.8	83.4	1,932	61.8	163	13.6	92.4
In families maintained by women	2,070	58.8	126	10.4	54.0	2,063	55.2	131	11.5	48.9
Householder	1,156	59.0	48	7.0	(1)	1,129	53.6	43	7.5	(1)
Other family member(s)	914	58.6	78	14.6	74.1	934	57.1	85	15.9	63.6
In families maintained by men	740	77.2	47	8.2	(1)	755	80.1	45	7.4	(1)
Householder	334	88.1	22	7.6	(1)	342	68.0	20	6.6	(1)
Other family member(s)	406	68.3	25	9.0	(1)	413	73.7	25	8.4	(1)

[1] Data not shown where base is less than 60,000.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	III 1988	III 1989	III 1988	III 1989	III 1988	III 1989
TOTAL						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	43,242	43,748	100.0	100.0	$601	$633
One earner	18,369	18,142	42.5	41.5	373	385
Two or more earners	24,873	25,606	57.5	58.5	793	821
Married-couple families	34,143	34,394	100.0	100.0	674	710
One earner	12,463	12,208	36.5	35.5	420	439
Husband	9,619	9,376	28.2	27.3	487	503
Wife	2,006	2,066	5.9	6.0	240	246
Other family member	838	766	2.5	2.2	236	264
Two or more earners	21,680	22,186	63.5	64.5	826	855
Husband and wife only	14,893	15,299	43.6	44.5	779	809
Husband, wife, and other family member(s)	4,041	4,078	11.8	11.9	1,065	1,133
Husband and other family member(s)	2,116	2,113	6.2	6.1	807	826
Wife and other family member(s)	491	497	1.4	1.4	530	533
Other family members only	139	200	.4	.6	498	556
Families maintained by women	6,998	7,209	100.0	100.0	343	360
One earner	4,716	4,720	67.4	65.5	266	274
Householder	3,693	3,720	52.8	51.6	278	279
Other family member	1,023	1,000	14.6	13.9	221	247
Two or more earners	2,282	2,489	32.6	34.5	553	583
Families maintained by men	2,101	2,145	100.0	100.0	499	521
One earner	1,191	1,214	56.7	56.6	374	397
Householder	961	957	45.7	44.6	393	426
Other family member	230	257	10.9	12.0	277	276
Two or more earners	910	931	43.3	43.4	714	706
White						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	36,896	37,159	100.0	100.0	620	660
One earner	15,324	15,052	41.5	40.5	390	404
Two or more earners	21,572	22,107	58.5	59.5	807	838
Married-couple families	30,365	30,397	100.0	100.0	683	722
One earner	11,206	10,887	36.9	35.8	431	457
Husband	8,725	8,481	28.7	27.9	494	511
Wife	1,737	1,763	5.7	5.8	241	242
Two or more earners	19,160	19,511	63.1	64.2	837	866
Husband and wife only	13,162	13,477	43.3	44.3	790	819
Families maintained by women	4,882	5,043	100.0	100.0	360	374
One earner	3,181	3,226	65.1	64.0	276	284
Two or more earners	1,701	1,817	34.9	36.0	559	594
Families maintained by men	1,649	1,719	100.0	100.0	500	558
One earner	938	939	56.9	54.6	384	414
Two or more earners	711	780	43.1	45.4	725	736
Black						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	5,142	5,149	100.0	100.0	445	462
One earner	2,536	2,537	49.3	49.3	266	272
Two or more earners	2,606	2,612	50.7	50.7	661	685
Married-couple families	2,799	2,838	100.0	100.0	577	591
One earner	882	933	31.5	32.9	297	301
Husband	581	595	20.8	21.0	378	376
Wife	211	232	7.5	8.2	220	252
Two or more earners	1,918	1,904	68.5	67.1	700	732
Husband and wife only	1,342	1,336	47.9	47.1	665	712
Families maintained by women	1,970	1,986	100.0	100.0	303	317
One earner	1,432	1,377	72.7	69.3	239	246
Two or more earners	537	609	27.3	30.7	521	520
Families maintained by men	372	325	100.0	100.0	452	414
One earner	165	171	44.2	52.5	350	318
Two or more earners	151	99	40.4	30.3	682	([2])

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	iii 1988	iii 1989	iii 1988	iii 1989	iii 1988	iii 1989
Hispanic origin						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	3,305	3,625	100.0	100.0	$489	$510
One earner	1,520	1,580	46.0	43.6	276	292
Two or more earners	1,785	2,045	54.0	56.4	669	666
Married-couple families	2,444	2,787	100.0	100.0	518	541
One earner	1,001	1,089	40.9	39.1	303	307
Husband	821	871	33.6	31.3	327	341
Wife	103	123	4.2	4.4	257	202
Two or more earners	1,444	1,698	59.1	60.9	682	695
Husband and wife only	839	967	34.3	34.7	623	638
Families maintained by women	614	539	100.0	100.0	295	342
One earner	408	350	66.4	65.0	228	242
Two or more earners	206	189	33.6	35.0	590	536
Families maintained by men	247	299	100.0	100.0	522	514
One earner	111	142	45.1	47.4	294	306
Two or more earners	136	157	54.9	52.6	669	588

[1] Data exclude families in which there is no wage or salary earner or in which the husband, wife, or other person maintaining the family is either self-employed or in the Armed Forces.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	IV 1988	IV 1989	IV 1988	IV 1989	IV 1988	IV 1989
TOTAL						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	42,845	43,906	100.0	100.0	$606	$639
One earner	18,017	18,208	42.1	41.5	366	384
Two or more earners	24,828	25,698	57.9	58.5	788	826
Married-couple families	33,519	34,341	100.0	100.0	684	716
One earner	11,901	11,826	35.5	34.4	426	450
Husband	8,938	8,782	26.7	25.6	500	518
Wife	2,307	2,269	6.9	6.6	243	253
Other family member	656	775	2.0	2.3	229	280
Two or more earners	21,618	22,516	64.5	65.6	820	855
Husband and wife only	15,475	16,430	46.2	47.8	780	822
Husband, wife, and other family member(s)	3,685	3,668	11.0	10.7	1,050	1,111
Husband and other family member(s)	1,775	1,708	5.3	5.0	780	813
Wife and other family member(s)	525	527	1.6	1.5	512	526
Other family members only	159	183	.5	.5	492	610
Families maintained by women	7,255	7,493	100.0	100.0	338	348
One earner	4,825	5,141	66.5	68.6	257	275
Householder	3,848	4,070	53.0	54.3	265	287
Other family member	977	1,071	13.5	14.3	222	220
Two or more earners	2,430	2,352	33.5	31.4	567	566
Families maintained by men	2,070	2,071	100.0	100.0	479	524
One earner	1,290	1,241	62.3	59.9	362	402
Householder	1,013	1,015	48.9	49.0	393	424
Other family member	277	226	13.4	10.9	275	300
Two or more earners	780	830	37.7	40.1	705	782
White						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	36,453	37,229	100.0	100.0	630	667
One earner	14,870	14,998	40.8	40.3	392	408
Two or more earners	21,582	22,232	59.2	59.7	801	843
Married-couple families	29,791	30,388	100.0	100.0	695	729
One earner	10,617	10,547	35.6	34.7	447	470
Husband	8,141	7,991	27.3	26.3	509	532
Wife	1,913	1,869	6.4	6.2	250	257
Two or more earners	19,174	19,841	64.4	65.3	828	867
Husband and wife only	13,769	14,523	46.2	47.8	789	832
Families maintained by women	5,096	5,205	100.0	100.0	356	369
One earner	3,286	3,484	64.5	66.9	271	289
Two or more earners	1,809	1,721	35.5	33.1	573	579
Families maintained by men	1,566	1,636	100.0	100.0	491	546
One earner	967	966	61.8	59.1	377	418
Two or more earners	599	670	38.2	40.9	711	817
Black						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	5,144	5,213	100.0	100.0	440	453
One earner	2,583	2,621	50.2	50.3	245	267
Two or more earners	2,561	2,593	49.8	49.7	670	678
Married-couple families	2,755	2,840	100.0	100.0	572	586
One earner	903	927	32.8	32.6	265	307
Husband	515	537	18.7	18.9	339	363
Wife	312	327	11.3	11.5	205	213
Two or more earners	1,852	1,913	67.2	67.4	719	729
Husband and wife only	1,303	1,426	47.3	50.2	694	712
Families maintained by women	1,988	2,058	100.0	100.0	291	293
One earner	1,423	1,488	71.6	72.3	224	226
Two or more earners	565	570	28.4	27.7	551	536
Families maintained by men	401	315	100.0	100.0	444	439
One earner	257	205	64.0	65.2	289	347
Two or more earners	144	110	36.0	34.8	683	648

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	IV 1988	IV 1989	IV 1988	IV 1989	IV 1988	IV 1989
Hispanic origin						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	3,571	3,711	100.0	100.0	$441	$481
One earner	1,726	1,753	48.3	47.2	272	308
Two or more earners	1,845	1,958	51.7	52.8	623	649
Married-couple families	2,503	2,688	100.0	100.0	491	533
One earner	1,074	1,092	42.9	40.6	296	321
Husband	907	851	36.3	31.6	308	347
Wife	125	175	5.0	6.5	208	248
Two or more earners	1,429	1,596	57.1	59.4	691	674
Husband and wife only	895	972	35.8	36.1	636	638
Families maintained by women	788	727	100.0	100.0	294	342
One earner	524	512	66.5	70.5	225	261
Two or more earners	264	215	33.5	29.5	536	523
Families maintained by men	281	297	100.0	100.0	417	472
One earner	128	149	45.7	50.3	221	357
Two or more earners	153	147	54.3	49.7	515	564

[1] Data exclude families in which there is no wage or salary earner or in which the husband, wife, or other person maintaining the family is either self-employed or in the Armed Forces.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 7. Families with unemployed members and wage and salary earners by type of family and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	III 1988	III 1989	III 1988	III 1989	III 1988	III 1989
Families with unemployment and wage and salary earners[1]	3,259	3,355	--	--	$408	$445
Married-couple families	2,450	2,657	100.0	100.0	465	482
Husband unemployed	655	661	26.7	24.9	292	286
Wife only earner	502	475	20.5	17.9	269	258
Wife and other earner(s)	111	104	4.5	3.9	482	510
Other earners only	42	83	1.7	3.1	(2)	(2)
Wife unemployed	916	989	37.4	37.2	453	460
Husband only earner	791	831	32.3	31.3	426	434
Husband and other earner(s)	106	140	4.3	5.3	672	739
Other earners only	19	18	.8	.7	(2)	(2)
Other members unemployed	879	1,007	35.9	37.9	661	723
Husband or wife earners	330	366	13.5	13.8	492	491
Both husband and wife earners	505	604	20.6	22.7	872	898
Other combinations of earners	44	36	1.8	1.4	(2)	(2)
Families maintained by women[1]	608	577	100.0	100.0	292	329
Householder unemployed	61	83	10.0	14.4	(2)	(2)
Other member(s) unemployed	547	494	90.0	85.6	305	323
Families maintained by men[1]	202	121	100.0	100.0	368	391
Householder unemployed	55	27	27.4	22.4	(2)	(2)
Other member(s) unemployed	147	94	72.6	77.6	413	(2)

[1] Data exclude families in which there is no wage or salary earner or in which the husband, wife, or other person maintaining the family is either self-employed or in the Armed Forces.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

Table 7. Families with unemployed members and wage and salary earners by type of family and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	IV 1988	IV 1989	IV 1988	IV 1989	IV 1988	IV 1989
Families with unemployment and wage and salary earners[1]	2,909	3,001	--	--	$383	$418
Married-couple families	2,210	2,363	100.0	100.0	442	473
Husband unemployed	757	747	34.3	31.6	253	279
Wife only earner	594	558	26.9	23.6	232	245
Wife and other earner(s)	94	120	4.3	5.1	(2)	544
Other earners only	69	69	3.1	2.9	(2)	(2)
Wife unemployed	708	840	32.0	35.5	468	473
Husband only earner	591	720	26.8	30.5	427	430
Husband and other earner(s)	107	111	4.8	4.7	649	745
Other earners only	10	8	.5	.3	(2)	(2)
Other members unemployed	745	776	33.7	32.9	672	727
Husband or wife earners	291	286	13.2	12.1	494	518
Both husband and wife earners	429	451	19.4	19.1	814	872
Other combinations of earners	24	39	1.1	1.6	(2)	(2)
Families maintained by women[1]	540	521	100.0	100.0	254	308
Householder unemployed	83	93	15.4	17.8	(2)	(2)
Other member(s) unemployed	456	429	84.6	82.2	276	335
Families maintained by men[1]	159	117	100.0	100.0	296	395
Householder unemployed	24	33	14.9	28.4	(2)	(2)
Other member(s) unemployed	136	84	85.1	71.6	297	(2)

[1] Data exclude families in which there is no wage or salary earner or in which the husband, wife, or other person maintaining the family is either self-employed or in the Armed Forces.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

Table 8. Families by employment status of members and type of family, annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	1988	1989	1988	1989
Married-couple families	50,851	51,237	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	7,717	7,794	15.2	15.2
With at least one member in the labor force	43,135	43,443	84.8	84.8
No member employed	635	582	1.2	1.1
Some member employed	42,499	42,861	83.6	83.7
Husband only	11,286	11,135	22.2	21.7
Wife only	2,326	2,383	4.6	4.7
Husband and wife	24,859	25,618	48.9	50.0
Husband and wife only	19,529	20,559	38.4	40.1
Other combinations	4,028	3,725	7.9	7.3
Families maintained by women	10,725	10,997	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	2,617	2,639	24.4	24.0
With at least one member in the labor force	8,108	8,357	75.6	76.0
No member employed	677	671	6.3	6.1
Some member employed	7,431	7,686	69.3	69.9
Householder employed	6,121	6,338	57.1	57.6
Householder only	3,800	3,999	35.4	36.4
Householder and other(s)	2,321	2,340	21.6	21.3
Other combinations	1,310	1,348	12.2	12.3
Families maintained by men	2,862	2,878	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	359	323	12.5	11.2
With at least one member in the labor force	2,503	2,555	87.5	88.8
No member employed	122	113	4.3	3.9
Some member employed	2,381	2,442	83.2	84.9
Householder employed	2,045	2,113	71.5	73.4
Householder only	1,074	1,107	37.5	38.5
Householder and other(s)	971	1,006	33.9	35.0
Other combinations	336	329	11.7	11.4

Table 9. Families with children under 18 years old by the employment status of parent(s) and type of family, annual averages

(In thousands)

Characteristic	1988			1989		
	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old
Total families	31,504	17,039	14,465	31,712	16,946	14,766
Married-couple families	23,968	12,370	11,597	24,023	12,326	11,697
With employed parent(s)	23,037	11,873	11,165	23,145	11,867	11,278
Neither unemployed	22,045	11,354	10,692	22,197	11,386	10,811
Father employed	7,553	3,075	4,478	7,316	2,885	4,431
Mother employed	465	320	146	458	317	141
Both employed	14,027	7,959	6,068	14,423	8,184	6,239
One unemployed	991	519	472	949	482	467
Father unemployed	423	245	178	380	215	165
Mother unemployed	568	274	294	569	267	302
With no employed parent	931	498	434	877	458	419
Father unemployed	275	103	172	256	97	160
Mother unemployed	39	26	13	30	17	13
Both unemployed	75	29	46	62	29	33
Neither in labor force	542	340	203	529	315	213
Families maintained by women	6,402	3,927	2,475	6,542	3,907	2,636
Mother employed	3,943	2,755	1,188	4,089	2,806	1,283
Mother not employed	2,460	1,173	1,287	2,454	1,101	1,353
Unemployed	463	246	217	463	232	231
Not in labor force	1,997	927	1,070	1,991	869	1,122
Families maintained by men	1,134	742	393	1,146	713	433
Father employed	933	613	320	974	610	364
Father not employed	201	129	72	172	103	69
Unemployed	76	42	34	58	30	28
Not in labor force	125	87	38	114	73	41
Total families with unemployed parents	1,919	965	954	1,818	887	932

Table 10. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989
TOTAL						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	42,913	43,525	100.0	100.0	$596	$624
One earner	18,327	18,284	42.7	42.0	367	376
Two or more earners	24,586	25,241	57.3	58.0	781	812
Married-couple families	33,864	34,125	100.0	100.0	668	701
One earner	12,365	12,139	36.5	35.6	418	430
Husband	9,429	9,175	27.8	26.9	489	502
Wife	2,199	2,236	6.5	6.6	238	251
Other family member	736	727	2.2	2.1	228	253
Two or more earners	21,499	21,987	63.5	64.4	811	845
Husband and wife only	15,278	15,761	45.1	46.2	773	808
Husband, wife, and other family member(s)	3,667	3,727	10.8	10.9	1,049	1,105
Husband and other family member(s)	1,872	1,811	5.5	5.3	787	801
Wife and other family member(s)	520	519	1.5	1.5	495	521
Other family members only	162	169	.5	.5	494	558
Families maintained by women	6,989	7,295	100.0	100.0	334	347
One earner	4,741	4,929	67.8	67.6	260	273
Householder	3,743	3,898	53.6	53.4	269	282
Other family member	999	1,031	14.3	14.1	225	234
Two or more earners	2,247	2,366	32.2	32.4	554	566
Families maintained by men	2,061	2,104	100.0	100.0	486	506
One earner	1,221	1,216	59.3	57.8	374	382
Householder	972	971	47.2	46.1	400	414
Other family member	249	245	12.1	11.6	256	266
Two or more earners	840	888	40.7	42.2	700	718
White						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	36,667	36,981	100.0	100.0	616	651
One earner	15,319	15,133	41.8	40.9	388	397
Two or more earners	21,348	21,848	58.2	59.1	793	827
Married-couple families	30,135	30,233	100.0	100.0	677	712
One earner	11,120	10,815	36.9	35.8	432	449
Husband	8,609	8,310	28.6	27.5	497	511
Wife	1,866	1,879	6.2	6.2	243	254
Two or more earners	19,015	19,418	63.1	64.2	818	854
Husband and wife only	13,516	13,944	44.9	46.1	780	817
Families maintained by women	4,930	5,114	100.0	100.0	351	363
One earner	3,260	3,377	66.1	66.0	272	285
Two or more earners	1,669	1,737	33.9	34.0	561	577
Families maintained by men	1,602	1,634	100.0	100.0	496	522
One earner	938	940	58.6	57.5	387	399
Two or more earners	664	694	41.4	42.5	706	741
Black						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	4,999	5,133	100.0	100.0	435	447
One earner	2,475	2,575	49.5	50.2	255	268
Two or more earners	2,525	2,558	50.5	49.8	667	680
Married-couple families	2,747	2,782	100.0	100.0	576	579
One earner	878	929	31.9	33.4	281	299
Husband	546	576	19.9	20.7	339	360
Wife	258	282	9.4	10.1	205	230
Two or more earners	1,870	1,853	68.1	66.6	713	730
Husband and wife only	1,340	1,348	48.8	48.4	685	706
Families maintained by women	1,884	1,984	100.0	100.0	291	303
One earner	1,366	1,419	72.5	71.5	230	240
Two or more earners	518	565	27.5	28.5	517	525
Families maintained by men	368	367	100.0	100.0	419	430
One earner	231	227	62.7	61.8	307	309
Two or more earners	137	140	37.3	38.2	676	615

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 10. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, annual averages —Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989
Hispanic origin						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	3,384	3,542	100.0	100.0	$451	$480
One earner	1,585	1,591	46.8	44.9	280	291
Two or more earners	1,799	1,950	53.2	55.1	631	648
Married-couple families	2,488	2,619	100.0	100.0	494	520
One earner	1,044	1,044	42.0	39.9	301	310
Husband	867	858	34.8	32.8	316	332
Wife	119	126	4.8	4.8	236	220
Two or more earners	1,444	1,574	58.0	60.1	671	667
Husband and wife only	908	977	36.5	37.3	623	630
Families maintained by women	634	633	100.0	100.0	295	337
One earner	421	409	66.3	64.6	220	236
Two or more earners	214	224	33.7	35.4	525	547
Families maintained by men	261	291	100.0	100.0	429	467
One earner	120	138	46.0	47.6	306	285
Two or more earners	141	152	54.0	52.4	522	601

[1] Data exclude families in which there is no wage or salary earner or in which the husband, wife, or other person maintaining the family is either self-employed or in the Armed Forces.

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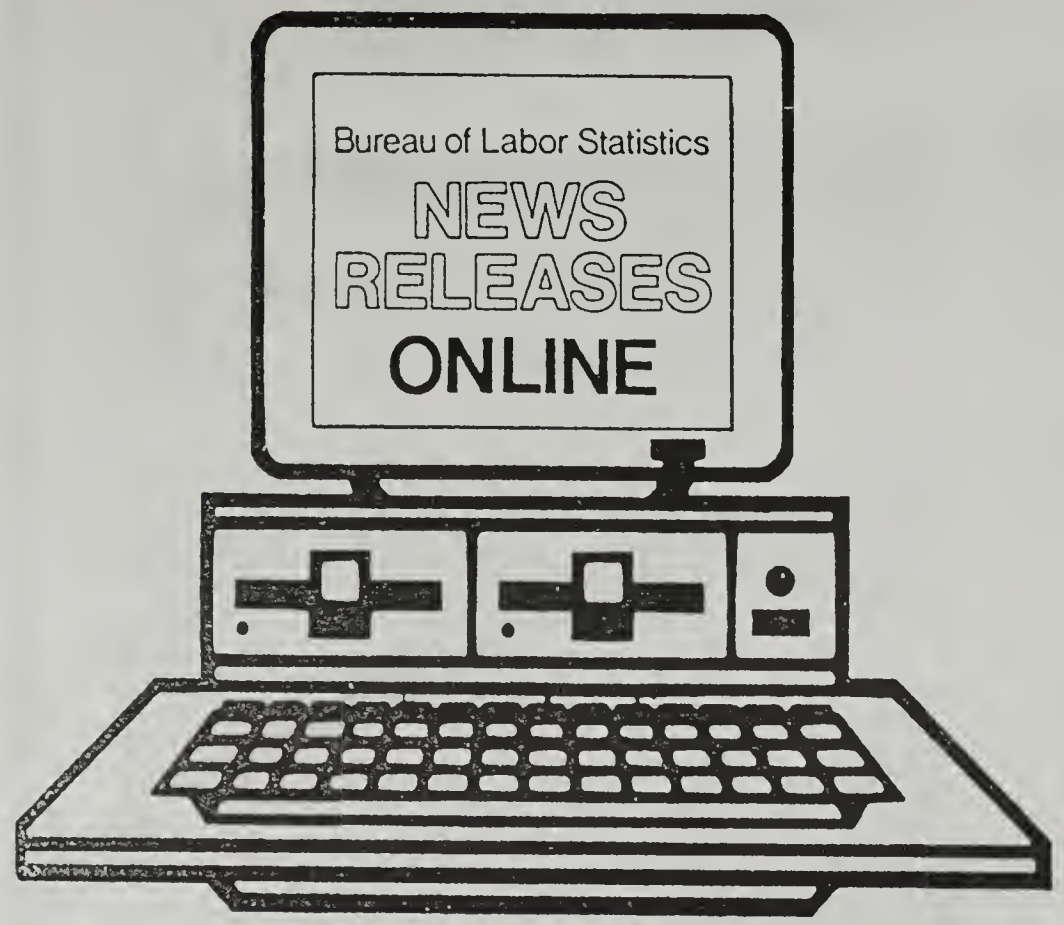

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1989

EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES: THIRD QUARTER 1989

The number of families with at least one employed member working full time was considerably higher in the third quarter of 1989 than a year before, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of labor Statistics reported today. data from the Current Population Survey showed that there were 50 million such families, 1.2 million more than in the third quarter of 1988. Other third quarter highlights were:

---The number of families with at least one employed member working either full or part time, rose to 53.2 million, accounting for 82 percent of all families. Black families continued to be less likely to have an employed member than either white or Hispanic families. (See tables A and 1.)

---The number of families with an unemployed member fell by about 300,000 over the year, to a level of 4.8 million. (See table 3.) About three-fourths of white and Hispanic families with unemployment, but only 62 percent of black families, also contained an employed member.

---There were 25.4 million husband-wife families in which both partners were employed, an increase of 600,000 over the year. This gain was evenly divided between families with and without children. (See tables 2 and 4.)

---Families maintained by women (with no husband present) continued to experience greater labor market difficulties than did other types of families. For example, they comprised 17 percent of all families, but 28 percent of those with unemployment and 54 percent of families with no employed members. (See tables 2 and 3.)

NOTE: Data on family earnings for the third quarter of 1989, which normally are included in this release (under the title Employment and Earnings Characteristics of Families), are not available for publication at this time because of the introduction of a new processing system at the Census Bureau. These data will be included in the news release for the fourth quarter, which is expected to be published in late January 1990.

---The number of working mothers rose to 19.1 million and accounted for 63 percent of all mothers. Most of the over-the-year gain of 400,000 was among mothers of preschoolers (under 6 years old). There was only a slight increase in the number of working mothers with school-age children (6 through 17 years), as the proportion of families with children of these ages continued to decline. (See tables A and 4.)

Table A. Summary labor force characteristics of families, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	III 1988	III 1989	Change
Total families	64,586	65,117	531
With employed member(s)	52,510	53,186	676
Percent of total families	81.3	81.7	.4
With member(s) employed full time	48,818	50,002	1,184
Percent of total families	75.6	76.8	1.2
With unemployed member(s)	5,050	4,783	-267
Percent with employed member(s)	72.0	72.9	.9
Percent of total families	7.8	7.3	-.5
With unemployed member(s), none employed	1,415	1,296	-119
Percent of total families	2.2	2.0	-.2
With no members in labor force	10,661	10,635	-26
Percent with no members under 60 years old	61.4	62.6	1.2
Percent of total families	16.5	16.3	-.2
With children under 18 years old	31,567	31,660	93
Percent with employed parent(s)	88.8	89.3	.5
Percent with employed mother	59.1	60.2	1.1
Percent of total families	48.9	48.6	-.3
With children under 6 year old	14,546	14,952	406
Percent with employed parent(s)	88.0	88.2	.2
Percent with employed mother	52.0	52.6	.6
Percent of total families	22.5	23.0	.5

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Explanatory Note

The estimates in this release were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), which provides basic information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment. The survey is conducted monthly for the Bureau of Labor Statistics by the Bureau of the Census from a scientifically selected national sample of about 55,800 households, with coverage in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The earnings data are collected from one-quarter of the CPS monthly sample and are limited to wages and salaries. The data, therefore, exclude self-employed income.

Reliability

In any sample survey, variations in the data can occur by chance because a sample, rather than the whole of the population, is surveyed. The standard error is a measure of such potential variation. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the survey differs from a figure that would be obtained from a complete census by less than one standard error. The chances are about 90 out of 100 that such a difference would be less than 1.6 standard errors. All statements of comparisons in the text of this release are significant at 1.6 or more standard errors.

Standard errors for numbers and proportions of families can be approximated using tables found in the Household Data section of the Explanatory Notes in *Employment and Earnings*. Representative standard errors for median family earnings are available from BLS upon request.

Definitions

The principal definitions used in this release are described briefly below.

Family. A family is a group of two or more persons residing together who are related by blood, marriage, or adoption. The count of families is for "primary" families only, that is, the householder and all other persons related to and residing with the householder. Not included are unrelated subfamilies. Families are classified either as married-couple families or families maintained by women or men without spouses.

Householder. A householder is the person in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented.

Children. Children are defined as "own" children, that is never-married sons, daughters, stepchildren, and adopted children. Excluded are other related children, such as nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and cousins, and unrelated children.

Employed. Employed persons are all civilians who during the survey week: (a) Did any work at all as paid employees; (b) worked in their own business or profession or on their own farms; or (c) worked 15 hours or more as an unpaid worker in a family- operated enterprise. Also included are those who were temporarily absent from their jobs because of illness, vacation, bad weather, labor-management disputes, or personal reasons.

Full-time workers. Persons who usually work 35 hours or more per week on their sole or principal job. Persons who work less than 35 hours are part-time workers.

Unemployed. The unemployed are persons who had no employment during the survey week, were available for work at that time, and made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the prior 4 weeks. Persons laid off from their former jobs and awaiting recall and those expecting to report to a job within 30 days need not be looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

Civilian labor force. The civilian labor force is the sum of the employed and the unemployed.

Wage and salary workers. Workers who receive wages, salaries, commissions, tips, payment in kind, or piece rates. Persons who report themselves as self-employed, including those whose businesses are incorporated, are excluded from coverage in these earnings data.

Usual weekly earnings. Data on usual weekly earnings are provided from responses to the questions, "How much does...USUALLY earn per week at this job before deductions? Include any overtime pay, commissions, or tips usually received." The response is for the worker's sole or principal job, and the term "usual" is as perceived by the respondent. If the respondent asks for a definition of "usual," interviewers are instructed to define the term as more than half the weeks worked during the past 4 or 5 months.

Median weekly earnings. The median of weekly earnings is the value at which 50 percent of the earnings distribution lies above and 50 percent lies below. The estimating procedure places each reported earnings value into intervals which are centered around multiples of $50. The actual value is calculated through linear interpolation of the interval in which the median lies.

Over-the-year changes in the medians for component groups may not necessarily be consistent with the changes estimated for the overall median and therefore are not presented in this release. Circumstances under which this can occur include: (1) Even though medians of component groups may rise, if the lower-earnings group accounts for a sufficiently increased share of the total, the overall median can rise less than for any of the groups; and (2) survey observations tend to be clustered at rounded values, such as $250, $300, and $400, and an estimated median lying in a $50-wide centered interval containing such a cluster changes more slowly than one in non-clustered intervals. For example, if the medians for component groups are not in a cluster but the overall group median is, then the increase in the overall median will be less than for the components.

Table 1. Families by employment status of members, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	III 1988	III 1989	III 1988	III 1989
TOTAL				
Total families	64,586	65,117	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	10,661	10,635	16.5	16.3
With at least one member in the labor force	53,925	54,482	83.5	83.7
No member employed	1,415	1,296	2.2	2.0
Some member employed	52,510	53,186	81.3	81.7
No one unemployed	48,875	49,699	75.7	76.3
One or more employed full time	45,631	46,828	70.7	71.9
Some member unemployed	3,635	3,487	5.6	5.4
One or more employed full time	3,187	3,174	4.9	4.9
White				
Total families	55,571	55,858	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	9,097	9,059	16.4	16.2
With at least one member in the labor force	46,475	46,799	83.6	83.8
No member employed	938	848	1.7	1.5
Some member employed	45,537	45,952	81.9	82.3
No one unemployed	42,685	43,240	76.8	77.4
One or more employed full time	39,998	40,891	72.0	73.2
Some member unemployed	2,852	2,712	5.1	4.9
One or more employed full time	2,516	2,489	4.5	4.5
Black				
Total families	7,174	7,275	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	1,306	1,338	18.2	18.4
With at least one member in the labor force	5,868	5,936	81.8	81.6
No member employed	441	406	6.1	5.6
Some member employed	5,427	5,531	75.6	76.0
No one unemployed	4,759	4,866	66.3	66.9
One or more employed full time	4,297	4,444	59.9	61.1
Some member unemployed	668	665	9.3	9.1
One or more employed full time	569	585	7.9	8.0
Hispanic origin				
Total families	4,574	4,877	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	615	645	13.4	13.2
With at least one member in the labor force	3,959	4,232	86.6	86.8
No member employed	143	166	3.1	3.4
Some member employed	3,815	4,065	83.4	83.4
No one unemployed	3,428	3,613	74.9	74.1
One or more employed full time	3,189	3,415	69.7	70.0
Some member unemployed	387	453	8.5	9.3
One or more employed full time	336	415	7.3	8.5

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 2. Families by employment status of members and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	III 1988	III 1989	III 1988	III 1989
Married-couple families	51,051	51,330	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	7,750	7,807	15.2	15.2
With at least one member in the labor force	43,301	43,522	84.8	84.8
No member employed	594	505	1.2	1.0
Some member employed	42,707	43,017	83.7	83.8
Husband only	11,371	11,299	22.3	22.0
Wife only	2,139	2,232	4.2	4.3
Husband and wife	24,823	25,427	48.6	49.5
Husband and wife only	18,929	20,045	37.1	39.1
Other combinations	4,374	4,060	8.6	7.9
Families maintained by women	10,661	10,884	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	2,538	2,503	23.8	23.0
With at least one member in the labor force	8,123	8,382	76.2	77.0
No member employed	704	699	6.6	6.4
Some member employed	7,419	7,683	69.6	70.6
Householder employed	6,096	6,331	57.2	58.2
Householder only	3,666	3,887	34.4	35.7
Householder and other(s)	2,430	2,444	22.8	22.5
Other combinations	1,323	1,352	12.4	12.4
Families maintained by men	2,875	2,904	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	373	325	13.0	11.2
With at least one member in the labor force	2,502	2,578	87.0	88.8
No member employed	118	92	4.1	3.2
Some member employed	2,384	2,486	82.9	85.6
Householder employed	2,058	2,164	71.6	74.5
Householder only	1,055	1,105	36.7	38.1
Householder and other(s)	1,003	1,059	34.9	36.5
Other combinations	326	322	11.3	11.1

Table 3. Families with unemployed members by type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	III 1988	III 1989	III 1988	III 1989
Families with unemployment	5,050	4,783	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	3,635	3,487	72.0	72.9
With no members employed	1,415	1,296	28.0	27.1
Married-couple families	3,379	3,237	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	2,786	2,732	82.5	84.4
With no members employed	594	505	17.6	15.6
With husband unemployed	1,082	1,058	32.0	32.7
Wife employed	608	625	18.0	19.3
Other(s) employed	70	66	2.1	2.0
No one employed	404	368	12.0	11.4
With wife unemployed	1,051	1,054	31.1	32.6
Husband employed	961	989	28.4	30.6
Other(s) employed	14	14	.4	.4
No one employed	76	51	2.2	1.6
With other member(s) unemployed	1,246	1,124	36.9	34.7
Families maintained by women	1,349	1,325	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	645	626	47.8	47.2
With no members employed	704	699	52.2	52.8
With householder unemployed	548	576	40.6	43.5
Other(s) employed	80	96	5.9	7.2
No one employed	468	480	34.7	36.2
With other member(s) unemployed	801	749	59.4	56.5
Families maintained by men	322	222	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	204	129	63.4	58.1
With no members employed	118	92	36.6	41.4
With householder unemployed	126	98	39.1	44.1
Other(s) employed	42	35	13.0	15.8
No one employed	84	63	26.1	28.4
With other member(s) unemployed	196	124	60.9	55.9

Table 4. Families with children under 18 years old by the employment status of parent(s) and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(In thousands)

Characteristic	III 1988			III 1989		
	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old
Total families	31,567	17,021	14,546	31,660	16,708	14,952
Married-couple families	24,058	12,383	11,675	24,049	12,168	11,881
With employed parent(s)	23,194	11,915	11,279	23,204	11,716	11,488
Neither unemployed	22,215	11,398	10,815	22,229	11,244	10,986
Father employed	7,851	3,254	4,596	7,553	2,974	4,579
Mother employed	432	305	126	427	303	124
Both employed	13,932	7,839	6,093	14,249	7,967	6,283
One unemployed	980	517	464	974	472	502
Father unemployed	368	219	150	344	180	164
Mother unemployed	612	298	314	630	292	338
With no employed parent	864	466	397	846	452	393
Father unemployed	251	95	155	229	90	139
Mother unemployed	39	20	19	22	12	10
Both unemployed	62	24	38	61	29	31
Neither in labor force	512	327	185	534	321	213
Families maintained by women	6,383	3,923	2,460	6,416	3,822	2,593
Mother employed	3,925	2,737	1,188	4,053	2,762	1,292
Mother not employed	2,458	1,186	1,271	2,362	1,061	1,301
Unemployed	480	245	234	488	241	247
Not in labor force	1,978	941	1,037	1,874	820	1,054
Families maintained by men	1,127	716	411	1,196	718	477
Father employed	920	593	327	1,021	616	405
Father not employed	207	122	84	174	102	72
Unemployed	76	37	39	45	18	27
Not in labor force	131	85	45	129	84	45
Total families with unemployed parents	1,888	938	949	1,819	862	956

Table 5. Employment status of persons in families by family relationship, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	III 1988					III 1989				
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed			Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed		
			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)
TOTAL										
In families	148,792	67.2	5,465	5.5	70.2	148,874	67.7	5,314	5.3	71.4
In married-couple families	123,259	67.8	3,628	4.3	79.8	122,856	68.2	3,554	4.2	82.5
Husbands	51,051	78.4	1,082	2.7	62.7	51,330	78.4	1,058	2.6	65.2
Wives	51,051	56.2	1,150	4.0	85.6	51,330	57.2	1,146	3.9	88.5
Other family member(s)	21,157	69.8	1,396	9.5	88.2	20,196	70.3	1,350	9.5	91.0
In families maintained by women	19,837	62.4	1,493	12.1	49.0	20,212	63.4	1,514	11.8	47.6
Householder	10,661	62.3	548	8.3	14.7	10,884	63.5	576	8.3	16.6
Other family member(s)	9,176	62.5	945	16.5	68.9	9,328	63.4	938	15.9	66.7
In families maintained by men	5,697	70.9	344	8.5	61.0	5,806	72.3	247	5.9	57.1
Householder	2,875	76.0	126	5.8	32.7	2,904	77.9	98	4.3	36.1
Other family member(s)	2,822	65.7	218	11.8	77.2	2,902	66.6	149	7.7	71.2
White										
In families	127,775	67.5	4,010	4.6	73.1	127,519	68.1	3,850	4.4	74.6
In married-couple families	110,044	67.7	2,968	4.0	79.8	109,549	68.1	2,896	3.9	82.6
Husbands	46,065	78.4	907	2.5	61.3	46,207	78.4	868	2.4	64.0
Wives	45,977	55.5	961	3.8	86.2	46,150	56.4	969	3.7	89.2
Other family member(s)	18,002	71.6	1,100	8.5	89.3	17,192	71.9	1,059	8.6	91.9
In families maintained by women	13,303	64.6	798	9.3	51.1	13,373	65.4	779	8.9	49.2
Householder	7,267	63.3	286	6.2	18.9	7,331	64.8	312	6.6	21.5
Other family member(s)	6,036	66.2	512	12.8	69.1	6,042	66.2	467	11.7	67.7
In families maintained by men	4,428	72.4	244	7.6	64.8	4,597	74.4	176	5.1	53.4
Householder	2,239	77.7	83	4.8	36.9	2,321	80.0	80	4.3	36.4
Other family member(s)	2,189	66.9	161	11.0	78.9	2,276	68.7	96	6.1	68.1
Black										
In families	16,173	65.2	1,293	12.3	60.9	16,320	65.2	1,294	12.2	61.9
In married-couple families	9,209	69.5	538	8.4	80.7	9,158	69.5	542	8.5	82.7
Husbands	3,561	77.9	131	4.7	70.4	3,603	77.9	152	5.4	73.4
Wives	3,467	65.5	149	6.6	84.3	3,502	65.2	142	6.2	85.8
Other family member(s)	2,181	62.3	258	19.0	84.3	2,053	62.0	248	19.5	86.1
In families maintained by women	5,981	58.4	671	19.2	46.9	6,265	59.3	691	18.6	45.6
Householder	3,115	61.1	250	13.1	9.9	3,242	60.8	247	12.5	9.5
Other family member(s)	2,866	55.5	421	26.5	68.8	3,023	57.8	444	25.4	65.5
In families maintained by men	983	65.4	85	13.2	44.7	897	63.1	60	10.6	63.3
Householder	512	68.1	36	10.2	([1])	454	67.8	14	4.5	([1])
Other family member(s)	471	62.4	49	16.6	([1])	443	58.1	46	17.8	([1])
Hispanic origin										
In families	11,143	66.6	598	8.1	72.5	11,693	67.1	693	8.8	71.5
In married-couple families	8,576	67.8	422	7.3	75.1	8,924	68.9	504	8.2	79.8
Husbands	3,235	86.4	143	5.1	53.8	3,466	86.1	165	5.5	59.5
Wives	3,326	51.3	106	6.2	79.0	3,460	52.7	136	7.5	84.5
Other family member(s)	2,015	65.1	173	13.2	90.0	1,998	66.8	203	15.2	93.1
In families maintained by women	1,887	56.8	133	12.4	60.2	1,938	55.3	152	14.2	45.4
Householder	1,044	54.2	39	6.9	([1])	1,063	53.4	61	10.8	16.5
Other family member(s)	843	60.1	94	18.5	77.3	875	57.8	91	18.1	64.7
In families maintained by men	680	78.2	43	8.1	([1])	831	75.7	37	5.9	([1])
Householder	304	85.0	18	7.0	([1])	371	80.4	13	4.4	([1])
Other family member(s)	376	72.9	25	9.2	([1])	460	72.0	24	7.2	([1])

[1] Data not shown where base is less than 60,000.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

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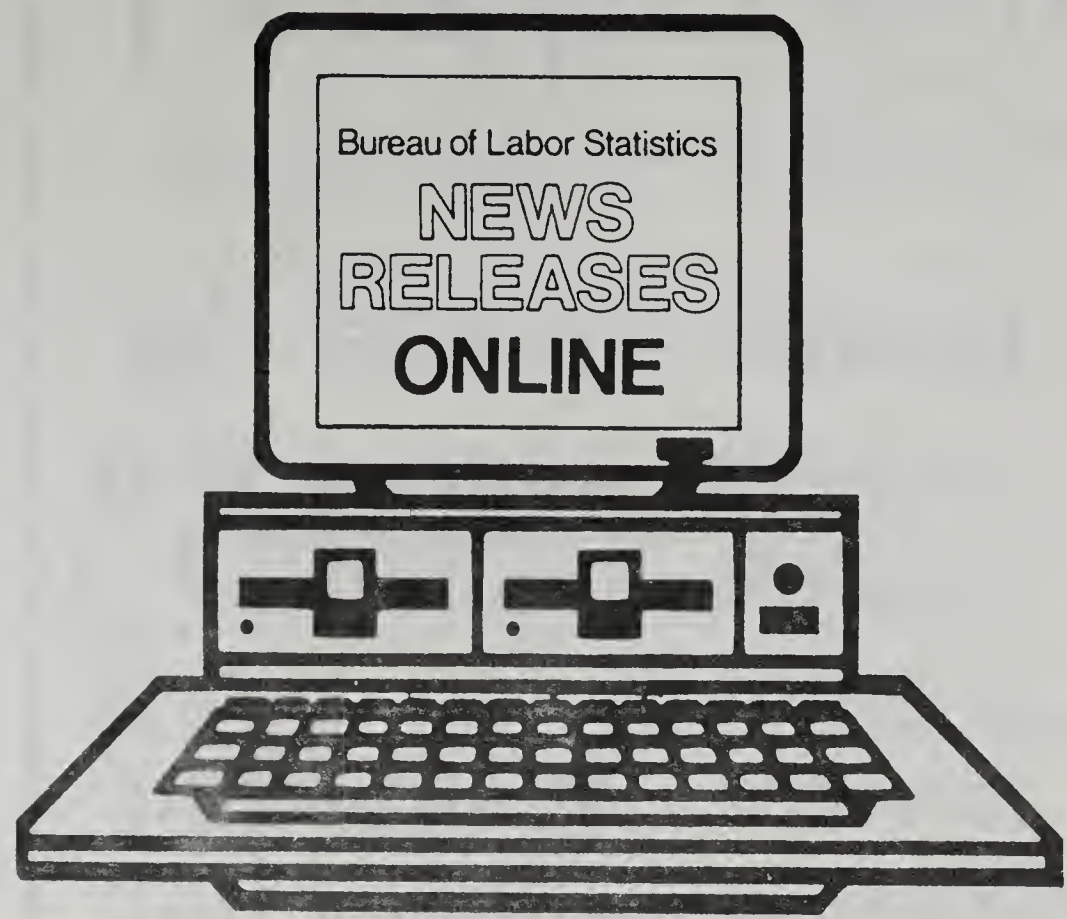

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MONDAY, JULY 31, 1989

EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES: SECOND QUARTER 1989

Fifty-three million families had at least one employed member in the second quarter of 1989, an increase of 800,000 from a year earlier, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. In releasing data from the Current Population Survey, BLS also reported that the median wage and salary earnings of families rose 4.2 percent to $622 per week over the same period. Other second-quarter highlights were:

---The number of families with at least one full-time worker rose by nearly 800,000 to a level of 49.1 million, or three-fourths of all families. (See table A.)

---Just 10.6 million families (16 percent) had no members in the labor force, and, in three-fifths of them, everyone was 60 years old or over. (See table 1.)

---The number of families in which both the husband and wife were employed jumped by 900,000 over the year to a total of 25.8 million. Most of this gain was among families with no children under the age of 18; the number with school-age children (6 to 17 year-olds) rose by only 200,000. (See tables 2 and 4.)

---About 4.9 million families had an unemployed member, little changed from a year earlier. The impact of unemployment on these families varies considerably depending largely on their makeup. For example, of the married-couple families with an unemployed member, 83 percent had at least one other member who was employed. On the other hand, in families maintained by women (no husband present), and with an unemployed member, the probability of having another member with a job was much lower; only half of these families had someone working. (See tables A and 3.)

---The median weekly earnings of married-couple families with wage and salary workers rose 4.5 percent over the year to reach $698. Nearly two-thirds of these families had two or more earners, and their median earnings were $850. Median earnings of families maintained by women ($340) remained about half those of married-couple families, in part because only one-third have more than one earner. (See table 6.)

---Median earnings of white families ($647) continued to exceed those for black families ($439) and Hispanic families ($451). These differences are explained in part by the fact that there are relatively fewer multi-earner families among blacks and Hispanics. (See table 6.)

Table A. Summary labor force characteristics of families, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	II 1988	II 1989	Change
Total families	64,249	64,995	746
With employed member(s)	52,188	53,027	839
Percent of total families	81.2	81.6	.4
With member(s) employed full time	48,373	49,126	753
Percent of total families	75.3	75.6	.3
With unemployed member(s)	4,951	4,926	-25
Percent with employed member(s)	72.3	72.7	.4
Percent of total families	7.7	7.6	-.1
With unemployed member(s), none employed	1,372	1,343	-29
Percent of total families	2.1	2.1	-
With no members in labor force	10,690	10,625	-65
Percent with no members under 60 years old	60.3	61.0	.7
Percent of total families	16.6	16.3	-.3
With children under 18 years old	31,485	31,248	-237
Percent with employed parent(s)	88.6	89.0	.4
Percent with employed mother	59.4	60.9	1.5
Percent of total families	49.0	48.1	-.9
With children under 6 years old	14,392	14,326	-66
Percent with employed parent(s)	87.7	87.3	-.4
Percent with employed mother	52.1	52.9	.8
Percent of total families	22.4	22.0	-.4

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

The estimates in this release were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), which provides basic information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment. The survey is conducted monthly for the Bureau of Labor Statistics by the Bureau of the Census from a scientifically selected national sample of households, with coverage in all 50 States and the District of Columbia. The size of the monthly sample is about 55,800 households. The earnings data are collected from one-quarter of the CPS monthly sample and are limited to wages and salaries. The data, therefore, exclude self-employment income.

Reliability

In any sample survey, variations in the data can occur by chance because a sample, rather than the whole of the population, is surveyed. The standard error is a measure of such potential variation. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the survey differs from a figure that would be obtained from a complete census by less than one standard error. The chances are about 90 out of 100 that such a difference would be less than 1.6 standard errors. All statements of comparisons in the text of this release are significant at 1.6 or more standard errors.

Standard errors for numbers and proportions of families can be approximated using tables found in the Household Data section of the Explanatory Notes in Employment and Earnings. Representative standard errors for median family earnings are available from BLS upon request.

Definitions

The principal definitions used in this release are described briefly below.

Family. A family is a group of two or more persons residing together who are related by blood, marriage, or adoption. The count of families is for "primary" families only, that is, the householder and all other persons related to and residing with the householder. Not included are unrelated subfamilies. Families are classified either as married-couple families or families maintained by women or men without spouses.

Householder. A householder is the person in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented.

Children. Children are defined as "own" children, that is, never-married sons, daughters, step-children, and adopted children. Excluded are other related children, such as nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and cousins, and unrelated children.

Employed. Employed persons are those who during the survey week: (a) Did any work at all as paid civilians; (b) worked in their own business or profession or on their own farms; or (c) worked 15 hours or more as an unpaid worker in a family operated enterprise. Also included are those who were temporarily absent from their jobs because of illness, vacation, bad weather, labor-management disputes, or personal reasons.

Full-time workers. Persons who usually work 35 hours or more per week on their sole or principal job. Persons who work less than 35 hours are part-time workers.

Unemployed. The unemployed are persons who had no employment during the survey week were available for work at that time and made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the prior 4 weeks. Persons laid off from their former jobs and awaiting recall and those expecting to report to a job within 30 days need not be looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

Civilian labor force. The civilian labor force is the sum of the employed and the unemployed.

Wage and salary workers. Workers who receive wages, salaries, commissions, tips, payment in kind, or piece rates. Persons who report themselves as self-employed, including those whose businesses are incorporated, are excluded from coverage in these earnings data.

Usual weekly earnings. Data on usual weekly earnings are provided from responses to the question, "How much does...USUALLY earn per week at this job before deductions? Include any overtime pay, commissions, or tips usually received." The response is for the worker's sole or principal job, and the term "usual" is as perceived by the respondent. If the respondent asks for a definition of "usual," interviewers are instructed to define the term as more than half the weeks worked during the past 4 or 5 months.

Median weekly earnings. The median of weekly earnings is the value at which 50 percent of the earnings distribution lies above and 50 percent lies below. The estimating procedure places each reported earnings value into intervals which are centered around multiples of $50. The actual value is calculated through linear interpolation of the interval in which the median lies.

Over-the-year changes in the medians for component groups may not necessarily be consistent with the changes estimated for the overall median and therefore are not presented in this release. Circumstances under which this can occur include: (1) Even though medians of component groups may rise, if the lower-earnings group accounts for a sufficiently increased share of the total, the overall median can rise less than for any of the groups; and (2) survey observations tend to be clustered at rounded values, such as $250, $300, and $400, and an estimated median lying in a $50-wide centered interval containing such a cluster changes more slowly than one in non-clustered intervals. For example, if the medians for component groups are not in a cluster but the overall group median is, then the increase in the overall median will be less than for the components.

Table 1. Families by employment status of members, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	II 1988	II 1989	II 1988	II 1989
TOTAL				
Total families	64,249	64,995	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	10,690	10,625	16.6	16.3
With at least one member in the labor force	53,559	54,370	83.4	83.7
No member employed	1,372	1,343	2.1	2.1
Some member employed	52,188	53,027	81.2	81.6
No one unemployed	48,609	49,445	75.7	76.1
One or more employed full time	45,246	45,964	70.4	70.7
Some member unemployed	3,579	3,582	5.6	5.5
One or more employed full time	3,127	3,162	4.9	4.9
White				
Total families	55,317	55,725	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	8,969	8,944	16.2	16.1
With at least one member in the labor force	46,348	46,781	83.8	83.9
No member employed	876	866	1.6	1.6
Some member employed	45,472	45,915	82.2	82.4
No one unemployed	42,671	43,143	77.1	77.4
One or more employed full time	39,867	40,208	72.1	72.2
Some member unemployed	2,801	2,772	5.1	5.0
One or more employed full time	2,452	2,483	4.4	4.5
Black				
Total families	7,095	7,291	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	1,443	1,429	20.3	19.6
With at least one member in the labor force	5,652	5,862	79.7	80.4
No member employed	449	436	6.3	6.0
Some member employed	5,203	5,426	73.3	74.4
No one unemployed	4,541	4,735	64.0	64.9
One or more employed full time	4,068	4,280	57.3	58.7
Some member unemployed	662	691	9.3	9.5
One or more employed full time	573	578	8.1	7.9
Hispanic origin				
Total families	4,489	4,717	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	598	621	13.3	13.2
With at least one member in the labor force	3,891	4,096	86.7	86.8
No member employed	172	175	3.8	3.7
Some member employed	3,719	3,921	82.8	83.1
No one unemployed	3,327	3,518	74.1	74.6
One or more employed full time	3,102	3,231	69.1	68.5
Some member unemployed	392	403	8.7	8.5
One or more employed full time	327	370	7.3	7.8

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 2. Families by employment status of members and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	II 1988	II 1989	II 1988	II 1989
Married-couple families	50,767	51,305	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	7,684	7,684	15.1	15.0
With at least one member in the labor force	43,083	43,620	84.9	85.0
No member employed	606	583	1.2	1.1
Some member employed	42,477	43,037	83.7	83.9
Husband only	11,330	11,116	22.3	21.7
Wife only	2,251	2,314	4.4	4.5
Husband and wife	24,858	25,770	49.0	50.2
Husband and wife only	19,463	20,272	38.3	39.5
Other combinations	4,038	3,837	8.0	7.5
Families maintained by women	10,540	10,801	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	2,627	2,609	24.9	24.2
With at least one member in the labor force	7,913	8,193	75.1	75.9
No member employed	647	644	6.1	6.0
Some member employed	7,266	7,549	68.9	69.9
Householder employed	5,965	6,221	56.6	57.6
Householder only	3,790	3,851	36.0	35.7
Householder and other(s)	2,175	2,370	20.6	21.9
Other combinations	1,301	1,328	12.3	12.3
Families maintained by men	2,943	2,889	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	379	332	12.9	11.5
With at least one member in the labor force	2,564	2,557	87.1	88.5
No member employed	119	116	4.0	4.0
Some member employed	2,445	2,441	83.1	84.5
Householder employed	2,128	2,103	72.3	72.8
Householder only	1,108	1,079	37.6	37.3
Householder and other(s)	1,020	1,024	34.7	35.4
Other combinations	317	338	10.8	11.7

Table 3. Families with unemployed members by type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	II 1988	II 1989	II 1988	II 1989
Families with unemployment	4,951	4,926	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	3,579	3,582	72.3	72.7
With no members employed	1,372	1,343	27.7	27.3
Married-couple families	3,370	3,374	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	2,764	2,791	82.0	82.7
With no members employed	606	583	18.0	17.3
With husband unemployed	1,151	1,088	34.2	32.2
Wife employed	664	626	19.7	18.6
Other(s) employed	67	58	2.0	1.7
No one employed	420	404	12.5	12.0
With wife unemployed	865	919	25.7	27.2
Husband employed	762	814	22.6	24.1
Other(s) employed	19	25	.6	.7
No one employed	84	80	2.5	2.4
With other member(s) unemployed	1,354	1,367	40.2	40.5
Families maintained by women	1,269	1,278	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	622	634	49.0	49.6
With no members employed	647	644	51.0	50.4
With householder unemployed	534	534	42.1	41.8
Other(s) employed	90	95	7.1	7.4
No one employed	444	439	35.0	34.4
With other member(s) unemployed	735	744	57.9	58.2
Families maintained by men	312	274	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	193	158	61.9	57.7
With no members employed	119	116	38.1	42.3
With householder unemployed	149	114	47.8	41.6
Other(s) employed	53	29	17.0	10.6
No one employed	96	85	30.8	31.0
With other member(s) unemployed	163	160	52.2	58.4

Table 4. Families with children under 18 years old by the employment status of parent(s) and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(In thousands)

Characteristic	II 1988			II 1989		
	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old
Total families	31,485	17,092	14,392	31,248	16,922	14,326
Married-couple families	23,955	12,458	11,497	23,752	12,399	11,353
With employed parent(s)	23,013	11,931	11,081	22,866	11,929	10,939
Neither unemployed	22,108	11,441	10,667	22,035	11,513	10,522
Father employed	7,673	3,149	4,525	7,321	3,002	4,319
Mother employed	469	322	146	470	330	141
Both employed	13,966	7,970	5,996	14,244	8,181	6,062
One unemployed	905	491	414	832	416	416
Father unemployed	405	237	168	329	180	149
Mother unemployed	500	254	246	503	236	267
With no employed parent	943	526	416	885	470	415
Father unemployed	253	110	143	258	100	158
Mother unemployed	48	36	12	41	20	21
Both unemployed	71	28	42	49	22	27
Neither in labor force	571	352	219	537	328	209
Families maintained by women	6,327	3,842	2,485	6,378	3,813	2,565
Mother employed	3,862	2,669	1,193	3,981	2,755	1,226
Mother not employed	2,465	1,173	1,292	2,398	1,058	1,340
Unemployed	462	254	208	441	228	213
Not in labor force	2,003	919	1,084	1,957	830	1,127
Families maintained by men	1,202	792	410	1,119	711	408
Father employed	1,010	664	345	952	614	338
Father not employed	193	128	65	166	97	70
Unemployed	75	45	30	59	27	33
Not in labor force	118	83	35	107	70	37
Total families with unemployed parents	1,814	964	849	1,680	813	868

Table 5. Employment status of persons in families by family relationship, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	II 1988					II 1989				
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed			Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed		
			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)
TOTAL										
In families	148,526	66.3	5,409	5.5	70.3	149,034	67.1	5,267	5.3	70.3
In married-couple families	122,858	67.1	3,646	4.4	79.8	123,309	67.7	3,582	4.3	80.5
Husbands	50,767	78.4	1,151	2.9	63.5	51,305	78.6	1,088	2.7	62.8
Wives	50,767	56.4	960	3.4	82.4	51,305	57.8	998	3.4	84.8
Other family member(s)	21,324	65.6	1,535	11.0	90.3	20,699	65.4	1,496	11.0	90.3
In families maintained by women	19,748	60.5	1,414	11.8	48.9	19,888	62.0	1,396	11.3	48.3
Householder	10,540	61.7	534	8.2	16.8	10,801	62.5	534	7.9	17.8
Other family member(s)	9,208	59.1	880	16.2	68.4	9,087	61.4	862	15.4	67.2
In families maintained by men	5,921	70.1	350	8.4	58.3	5,838	70.9	290	7.0	51.4
Householder	2,943	77.4	149	6.6	36.0	2,889	76.8	114	5.1	25.7
Other family member(s)	2,978	62.9	201	10.7	74.5	2,949	65.1	176	9.1	68.5
White										
In families	127,667	66.9	3,894	4.6	74.1	127,639	67.6	3,780	4.4	73.7
In married-couple families	109,954	67.1	2,971	4.0	80.4	109,814	67.7	2,879	3.9	80.2
Husbands	45,904	78.4	966	2.7	64.0	46,135	78.6	885	2.4	61.3
Wives	45,821	55.7	781	3.1	84.3	46,049	57.0	830	3.2	85.5
Other family member(s)	18,229	67.5	1,224	9.9	91.0	17,630	67.0	1,164	9.9	90.9
In families maintained by women	13,171	63.3	709	8.5	51.1	13,351	65.0	718	8.3	51.9
Householder	7,124	63.3	264	5.9	19.9	7,336	64.2	289	6.1	24.5
Other family member(s)	6,047	63.3	445	11.6	69.6	6,015	65.9	429	10.8	70.6
In families maintained by men	4,542	71.3	213	6.6	62.4	4,474	72.3	184	5.7	57.1
Householder	2,284	78.8	92	5.1	42.3	2,238	78.7	65	3.7	28.5
Other family member(s)	2,258	63.7	121	8.4	77.6	2,236	65.8	119	8.1	72.3
Black										
In families	16,067	63.0	1,336	13.2	59.2	16,320	63.9	1,314	12.6	60.5
In married-couple families	9,009	68.1	554	9.0	76.7	9,301	68.6	577	9.0	81.3
Husbands	3,473	78.1	143	5.3	61.0	3,620	77.5	156	5.6	70.0
Wives	3,384	65.0	142	6.5	71.4	3,540	65.7	128	5.5	79.0
Other family member(s)	2,152	56.8	269	22.0	87.9	2,141	58.5	293	23.4	88.1
In families maintained by women	5,991	54.5	671	20.5	46.8	5,991	56.0	653	19.5	44.3
Householder	3,102	58.3	257	14.2	14.6	3,166	59.3	233	12.4	9.6
Other family member(s)	2,889	50.5	414	28.4	66.6	2,825	52.3	420	28.5	63.6
In families maintained by men	1,067	68.0	112	15.4	46.4	1,028	67.4	83	12.0	43.4
Householder	535	72.2	50	12.9	(1)	517	69.6	41	11.4	(1)
Other family member(s)	532	63.8	62	18.4	69.3	511	65.1	42	12.6	(1)
Hispanic origin										
In families	10.989	65.7	646	9.0	67.3	11,520	66.8	617	8.0	67.9
In married-couple families	8,364	67.5	465	8.2	75.7	8,761	68.2	449	7.5	77.7
Husbands	3,161	85.6	152	5.6	61.5	3,316	86.2	124	4.3	48.9
Wives	3,271	52.0	107	6.3	77.8	3,452	54.6	139	7.3	86.6
Other family member(s)	1,932	64.2	206	16.6	85.5	1,993	61.6	186	15.2	90.2
In families maintained by women	1,822	52.0	136	14.3	42.6	1,915	56.9	127	11.7	40.9
Householder	971	50.3	42	8.6	(1)	1,036	55.2	59	10.4	(1)
Other family member(s)	851	54.0	94	20.4	56.6	879	59.1	68	13.1	61.9
In families maintained by men	803	77.5	46	7.4	(1)	844	75.6	40	6.3	(1)
Householder	354	85.4	23	7.5	(1)	373	82.1	20	6.7	(1)
Other family member(s)	449	71.2	23	7.2	(1)	471	70.6	20	6.1	(1)

[1] Data not shown where base is less than 60,000.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Charactistic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	II 1988	II 1989	II 1988	II 1989	II 1988	II 1989
TOTAL						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	42,637	43,198	100.0	100.0	$597	$622
One earner	18,201	18,161	42.7	42.0	367	370
Two or more earners	24,436	25,037	57.3	58.0	782	817
Married-couple families	33,839	34,052	100.0	100.0	668	698
One earner	12,400	12,175	36.6	35.8	418	419
Husband	9,532	9,293	28.2	27.3	490	492
Wife	2,121	2,180	6.3	6.4	232	244
Other family member	747	703	2.2	2.1	236	234
Two or more earners	21,439	21,876	63.4	64.2	809	850
Husband and wife only	15,375	15,817	45.4	46.5	770	817
Husband, wife, and other family member(s)	3,601	3,684	10.6	10.8	1037	1074
Husband and other family member(s)	1,806	1,736	5.3	5.1	804	781
Wife and other family member(s)	465	505	1.4	1.5	466	557
Other family members only	192	135	.6	.4	507	501
Families maintained by women	6,679	7,039	100.0	100.0	330	340
One earner	4,592	4,794	68.7	68.1	258	269
Householder	3,645	3,796	54.6	53.9	267	279
Other family member	947	998	14.2	14.2	224	231
Two or more earners	2,087	2,245	31.3	31.9	559	570
Families maintained by men	2,119	2,107	100.0	100.0	493	491
One earner	1,209	1,192	57.1	56.6	379	342
Householder	995	947	46.9	44.9	400	386
Other family member	214	245	10.1	11.6	261	251
Two or more earners	910	916	42.9	43.4	713	720
White						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	36,570	36,640	100.0	100.0	616	647
One earner	15,313	14,937	41.9	40.8	389	391
Two or more earners	21,257	21,703	58.1	59.2	792	829
Married-couple families	30,173	30,095	100.0	100.0	676	708
One earner	11,207	10,766	37.1	35.8	433	434
Husband	8,743	8,349	29.0	27.7	498	501
Wife	1,814	1,806	6.0	6.0	237	245
Two or more earners	18,966	19,328	62.9	64.2	813	857
Husband and wife only	13,596	13,966	45.1	46.4	776	825
Families maintained by women	4,725	4,959	100.0	100.0	349	363
One earner	3,176	3,270	67.2	65.9	269	283
Two or more earners	1,550	1,689	32.8	34.1	574	574
Families maintained by men	1,671	1,586	100.0	100.0	505	510
One earner	930	901	55.7	56.8	393	361
Two or more earners	741	685	44.3	43.2	719	752
Black						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	4,828	5,145	100.0	100.0	432	439
One earner	2,355	2,610	48.8	50.7	258	268
Two or more earners	2,472	2,535	51.2	49.3	682	711
Married-couple families	2,734	2,859	100.0	100.0	583	586
One earner	859	971	31.4	33.9	292	307
Husband	565	609	20.6	21.3	324	374
Wife	230	296	8.4	10.4	202	234
Two or more earners	1,875	1,888	68.6	66.1	736	765
Husband and wife only	1,360	1,395	49.8	48.8	693	728
Families maintained by women	1,740	1,858	100.0	100.0	278	285
One earner	1,276	1,383	73.4	74.4	228	243
Two or more earners	463	475	26.6	25.6	488	533
Families maintained by men	354	428	100.0	100.0	410	385
One earner	182	203	51.5	47.4	346	306
Two or more earners	134	172	37.8	40.1	692	558

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Charactistic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	II 1988	II 1989	II 1988	II 1989	II 1988	II 1989
Hispanic origin						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	3,351	3,331	100.0	100.0	$447	$451
One earner	1,530	1,464	45.7	44.0	289	276
Two or more earners	1,821	1,866	54.3	56.0	624	646
Married-couple families	2,571	2,447	100.0	100.0	489	508
One earner	1,081	970	42.0	39.7	304	294
Husband	903	826	35.1	33.7	311	314
Wife	127	105	5.0	4.3	259	209
Two or more earners	1,490	1,477	58.0	60.3	662	681
Husband and wife only	953	936	37.1	38.3	635	647
Families maintained by women	479	588	100.0	100.0	291	327
One earner	326	359	68.2	61.1	221	227
Two or more earners	152	229	31.8	38.9	487	454
Families maintained by men	301	295	100.0	100.0	392	403
One earner	123	134	40.8	45.5	319	280
Two or more earners	178	161	59.2	54.5	481	524

[1] Data exclude families in which there is no wage or salary earner or in which the husband, wife, or other person maintaining the family is either self-employed or in the Armed Forces.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 7. Families with unemployed members and wage and salary earners by type of family and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Charactistic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	II 1988	II 1989	II 1988	II 1989	II 1988	II 1989
Families with unemployment and wage and salary earners[1]	3,129	3,049	—	—	$403	$430
Married-couple families	2,405	2,405	100.0	100.0	455	473
Husband unemployed	680	627	28.3	26.1	252	272
Wife only earner	520	476	21.6	19.8	232	255
Wife and other earner(s)	93	89	3.9	3.7	([2])	([2])
Other earners only	67	62	2.8	2.6	([2])	([2])
Wife unemployed	708	792	29.4	32.9	398	419
Husband only earner	592	663	24.6	27.6	356	399
Husband and other earner(s)	102	106	4.3	4.4	709	692
Other earners only	13	24	.6	1.0	([2])	([2])
Other members unemployed	1,017	986	42.3	41.0	696	691
Husband or wife earners	406	342	16.9	14.2	598	526
Husband and wife earners	577	620	24.0	25.8	777	868
Other combinations of earners	34	23	1.4	1.0	([2])	([2])
Families maintained by women	567	536	100.0	100.0	283	307
Householder unemployed	78	107	13.7	20.0	([2])	193
Other member(s) unemployed	489	428	86.3	80.0	310	334
Families maintained by men	158	109	100.0	100.0	321	378
Householder unemployed	33	34	21.0	31.7	([2])	([2])
Other member(s) unemployed	125	74	79.0	68.3	355	([2])

[1] Data exclude families in which there is no wage or salary earner or in which the husband, wife, or other person maintaining the family is either self-employed or in the Armed Forces.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

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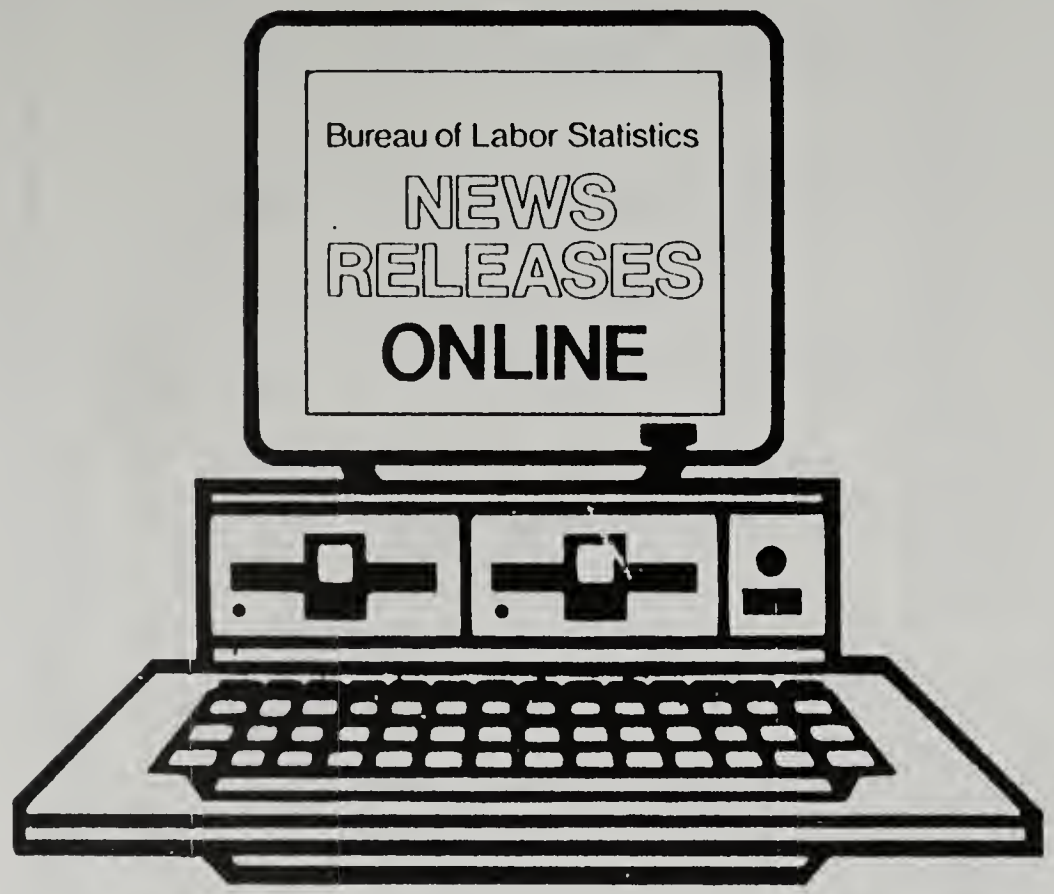

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FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 1989

EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES: FIRST QUARTER 1989

The number of families with at least one employed member working full time continued to increase in the first quarter of 1989, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Data from the Current Population Survey show 48.4 million such families in the first quarter, 500,000 more than a year ago.

Over this same period, the median wage and salary earnings of all families rose 4.3 percent to $605 a week, and prices, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, rose by 4.8 percent. Other first-quarter 1989 highlights were:

---About 52.5 million families, or 81 percent of the total, had at least one employed member in the first quarter. Black families were still less likely to have an employed member than were either white or Hispanic families. (See tables A and 1.)

---The number of families with an unemployed member was 5.1 million, 400,000 below the level of a year earlier. Nearly all of the improvement in unemployment occurred among married-couple families. About 92 percent of families had no unemployment. (See tables A and 3.)

---The number of families in which both the husband and wife were employed rose by 900,000 over the year to a total of 25.2 million, one-half of all married-couple families. Families with and without children shared equally in the gain. (See tables 2 and 4.)

---About 19.2 million mothers--63 percent of the total--were working in the first quarter. The over-the-year gain of 400,000 was divided evenly between mothers of preschoolers and mothers of school-age children. The number of families with an unemployed parent fell by 250,000. (See table 4.)

---Median wage and salary earnings of married-couple families were $678 a week in the first quarter, 4.6 percent more than a year earlier. The median for families with at least two earners (usually the husband and wife) was $824 a week, 67 percent higher than that for families where the husband was the sole earner. Median earnings of families maintained by women ($344) remained about half those of married-couple families. (See table 6.)

---Median earnings of white families ($626) continued to exceed those for black families ($438) and Hispanic families ($456). This difference is explained in part by the fact that a higher proportion of white families had two or more earners. (See table 6.)

Table A. Summary labor force characteristics of families, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	I 1988	I 1989	Change
Total families	64,246	64,899	653
With employed member(s)	51,950	52,535	585
Percent of total families	80.9	80.9	-
With member(s) employed full time	47,883	48,372	489
Percent of total families	74.5	74.5	-
With unemployed member(s)	5,452	5,067	-385
Percent with employed member(s)	71.3	70.7	-.6
Percent of total families	8.5	7.8	-.7
With unemployed member(s), none employed	1,567	1,483	-84
Percent of total families	2.4	2.3	-.1
With no members in labor force	10,729	10,881	152
Percent with no members under 60 years old	60.1	60.3	.2
Percent of total families	16.7	16.8	.1
With children under 18 years old	31,531	31,466	-65
Percent with employed parent(s)	88.1	88.5	.4
Percent with employed mother	59.5	61.0	1.5
Percent of total families	49.1	48.5	-.6
With children under 6 years old	14,445	14,558	113
Percent with employed parent(s)	86.9	86.9	-
Percent with employed mother	51.8	52.9	1.1
Percent of total families	22.5	22.4	-.1

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

The estimates in this release were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), which provides basic information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment. The survey is conducted monthly for the Bureau of Labor Statistics by the Bureau of the Census from a scientifically selected national sample of households, with coverage in all 50 States and the District of Columbia. The size of the monthly sample is about 55,800 households. The earnings data are collected from one-quarter of the CPS monthly sample and are limited to wages and salaries. The data, therefore, exclude self-employment income.

Reliability

In any sample survey, variations in the data can occur by chance because a sample, rather than the whole of the population, is surveyed. The standard error is a measure of such potential variation. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the survey differs from a figure that would be obtained from a complete census by less than one standard error. The chances are about 90 out of 100 that such a difference would be less than 1.6 standard errors. All statements of comparisons in the text of this release are significant at 1.6 or more standard errors.

Standard errors for numbers and proportions of families can be approximated using tables found in the Household Data section of the Explanatory Notes in Employment and Earnings. Representative standard errors for median family earnings are available from BLS upon request.

Definitions

The principal definitions used in this release are described briefly below.

Family. A family is a group of two or more persons residing together who are related by blood, marriage, or adoption. The count of families is for "primary" families only, that is, the householder and all other persons related to and residing with the householder. Not included are unrelated subfamilies. Families are classified either as married-couple families or families maintained by women or men without spouses.

Householder. A householder is the person in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented.

Children. Children are defined as "own" children, that is, never-married sons, daughters, step-children, and adopted children. Excluded are other related children, such as nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and cousins, and unrelated children.

Employed. Employed persons are those who during the survey week: (a) Did any work at all as paid civilians; (b) worked in their own business or profession or on their own farms; or (c) worked 15 hours or more as an unpaid worker in a family operated enterprise. Also included are those who were temporarily absent from their jobs because of illness, vacation, bad weather, labor-management disputes, or personal reasons.

Full-time workers. Persons who usually work 35 hours or more per week on their sole or principal job. Persons who work less than 35 hours are part-time workers.

Unemployed. The unemployed are persons who had no employment during the survey week were available for work at that time and made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the prior 4 weeks. Persons laid off from their former jobs and awaiting recall and those expecting to report to a job within 30 days need not be looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

Civilian labor force. The civilian labor force is the sum of the employed and the unemployed.

Wage and salary workers. Workers who receive wages, salaries, commissions, tips, payment in kind, or piece rates. Persons who report themselves as self-employed, including those whose businesses are incorporated, are excluded from coverage in these earnings data.

Usual weekly earnings. Data on usual weekly earnings are provided from responses to the question, "How much does...USUALLY earn per week at this job before deductions? Include any overtime pay, commissions, or tips usually received." The response is for the worker's sole or principal job, and the term "usual" is as perceived by the respondent. If the respondent asks for a definition of "usual," interviewers are instructed to define the term as more than half the weeks worked during the past 4 or 5 months.

Median weekly earnings. The median of weekly earnings is the value at which 50 percent of the earnings distribution lies above and 50 percent lies below. The estimating procedure places each reported earnings value into intervals which are centered around multiples of $50. The actual value is calculated through linear interpolation of the interval in which the median lies.

Over-the-year changes in the medians for component groups may not necessarily be consistent with the changes estimated for the overall median and therefore are not presented in this release. Circumstances under which this can occur include: (1) Even though medians of component groups may rise, if the lower-earnings group accounts for a sufficiently increased share of the total, the overall median can rise less than for any of the groups; and (2) survey observations tend to be clustered at rounded values, such as $250, $300, and $400, and an estimated median lying in a $50-wide centered interval containing such a cluster changes more slowly than one in non-clustered intervals. For example, if the medians for component groups are not in a cluster but the overall group median is, then the increase in the overall median will be less than for the components.

Table 1. Families by employment status of members, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	I 1988	I 1989	I 1988	I 1989
TOTAL				
Total families	64,246	64,899	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	10,729	10,881	16.7	16.8
With at least one member in the labor force	53,517	54,018	83.3	83.2
No member employed	1,567	1,483	2.4	2.3
Some member employed	51,950	52,535	80.9	80.9
No one unemployed	48,065	48,951	74.8	75.4
One or more employed full time	44,535	45,259	69.3	69.7
Some member unemployed	3,885	3,584	6.0	5.5
One or more employed full time	3,348	3,113	5.2	4.8
White				
Total families	55,332	55,693	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	9,051	9,170	16.4	16.5
With at least one member in the labor force	46,281	46,523	83.6	83.5
No member employed	1,053	966	1.9	1.7
Some member employed	45,228	45,557	81.7	81.8
No one unemployed	42,141	42,717	76.2	76.7
One or more employed full time	39,179	39,623	70.8	71.1
Some member unemployed	3,087	2,840	5.6	5.1
One or more employed full time	2,687	2,479	4.9	4.5
Black				
Total families	7,101	7,289	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	1,435	1,442	20.2	19.8
With at least one member in the labor force	5,665	5,846	79.8	80.2
No member employed	463	471	6.5	6.5
Some member employed	5,202	5,376	73.3	73.8
No one unemployed	4,535	4,750	63.9	65.2
One or more employed full time	4,056	4,240	57.1	58.2
Some member unemployed	667	626	9.4	8.6
One or more employed full time	547	532	7.7	7.3
Hispanic origin				
Total families	4,483	4,718	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	681	703	15.2	14.9
With at least one member in the labor force	3,801	4,015	84.8	85.1
No member employed	177	147	3.9	3.1
Some member employed	3,624	3,868	80.8	82.0
No one unemployed	3,244	3,501	72.4	74.2
One or more employed full time	2,986	3,234	66.6	68.5
Some member unemployed	380	367	8.5	7.8
One or more employed full time	313	315	7.0	6.7

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 2. Families by employment status of members and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	I 1988	I 1989	I 1988	I 1989
Married-couple families	50,707	51,023	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	7,655	7,834	15.1	15.4
With at least one member in the labor force	43,052	43,190	84.9	84.6
No member employed	744	664	1.5	1.3
Some member employed	42,308	42,526	83.4	83.3
Husband only	11,523	11,105	22.7	21.8
Wife only	2,551	2,572	5.0	5.0
Husband and wife	24,336	25,225	48.0	49.4
Husband and wife only	19,521	20,206	38.5	39.6
Other combinations	3,898	3,624	7.7	7.1
Families maintained by women	10,714	10,992	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	2,692	2,709	25.1	24.6
With at least one member in the labor force	8,023	8,283	74.9	75.4
No member employed	685	671	6.4	6.1
Some member employed	7,338	7,612	68.5	69.3
Householder employed	6,045	6,283	56.4	57.2
Householder only	3,813	3,993	35.6	36.3
Householder and other(s)	2,232	2,290	20.8	20.8
Other combinations	1,293	1,329	12.1	12.1
Families maintained by men	2,824	2,883	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	382	338	13.5	11.7
With at least one member in the labor force	2,442	2,545	86.5	88.3
No member employed	138	149	4.9	5.2
Some member employed	2,304	2,397	81.6	83.1
Householder employed	1,958	2,059	69.3	71.4
Householder only	1,056	1,076	37.4	37.3
Householder and other(s)	902	983	31.9	34.1
Other combinations	346	338	12.3	11.7

Table 3. Families with unemployed members by type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	I 1988	I 1989	I 1988	I 1989
Families with unemployment	5,452	5,067	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	3,885	3,584	71.3	70.7
With no members employed	1,567	1,483	28.7	29.3
Married-couple families	3,802	3,440	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	3,058	2,777	80.4	80.7
With no members employed	744	664	19.6	19.3
With husband unemployed	1,533	1,369	40.3	39.8
Wife employed	884	827	23.3	24.0
Other(s) employed	74	56	1.9	1.6
No one employed	575	485	15.1	14.1
With wife unemployed	1,024	911	26.9	26.5
Husband employed	933	815	24.5	23.7
Other(s) employed	20	16	.5	.5
No one employed	71	80	1.9	2.3
With other member(s) unemployed	1,245	1,160	32.7	33.7
Families maintained by women	1,307	1,286	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	622	615	47.6	47.8
With no members employed	685	671	52.4	52.2
With householder unemployed	559	559	42.8	43.5
Other(s) employed	103	97	7.9	7.5
No one employed	456	462	34.9	35.9
With other member(s) unemployed	748	727	57.2	56.5
Families maintained by men	343	341	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	204	192	59.5	56.3
With no members employed	138	149	40.2	43.7
With householder unemployed	167	165	48.7	48.4
Other(s) employed	58	54	16.9	15.8
No one employed	109	111	31.8	32.6
With other member(s) unemployed	176	176	51.3	51.6

Table 4. Families with children under 18 years old by the employment status of parent(s) and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(In thousands)

Characteristic	I 1988			I 1989		
	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old
Total families	31,531	17,086	14,445	31,466	16,908	14,558
Married-couple families	23,959	12,319	11,640	23,856	12,316	11,540
With employed parent(s)	22,942	11,806	11,136	22,921	11,844	11,076
Neither unemployed	21,793	11,218	10,575	21,921	11,291	10,630
Father employed	7,488	3,037	4,452	7,235	2,846	4,389
Mother employed	494	329	165	493	352	141
Both employed	13,811	7,852	5,958	14,193	8,093	6,100
One unemployed	1,149	588	561	1,000	552	446
Father unemployed	512	294	218	480	292	187
Mother unemployed	637	294	343	520	260	259
With no employed parent	1,017	512	505	935	471	464
Father unemployed	345	109	236	286	97	189
Mother unemployed	42	27	15	35	22	13
Both unemployed	79	30	49	75	34	40
Neither in labor force	551	346	205	539	318	222
Families maintained by women	6,467	4,025	2,442	6,522	3,883	2,639
Mother employed	3,944	2,807	1,137	4,027	2,758	1,269
Mother not employed	2,523	1,218	1,306	2,495	1,124	1,371
Unemployed	461	265	196	448	226	222
Not in labor force	2,062	953	1,110	2,047	898	1,149
Families maintained by men	1,104	742	363	1,088	710	378
Father employed	881	596	285	903	593	310
Father not employed	223	145	77	185	116	68
Unemployed	91	51	39	72	47	24
Not in labor force	132	94	38	113	69	44
Total families with unemployed parents	2,167	1,070	1,096	1,916	978	934

Table 5. Employment status of persons in families by family relationship, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	I 1988					I 1989				
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed			Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed		
			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)
TOTAL										
In families	148,076	65.6	5,990	6.2	69.3	148,679	66.0	5,526	5.6	69.0
In married-couple families	122,324	66.3	4,158	5.1	77.7	122,542	66.6	3,724	4.6	78.5
Husbands	50,707	78.3	1,533	3.9	62.5	51,023	78.1	1,369	3.4	64.6
Wives	50,707	56.5	1,152	4.0	83.9	51,023	57.7	1,018	3.5	83.5
Other family member(s)	20,910	61.2	1,473	11.5	88.8	20,496	60.6	1,337	10.8	89.1
In families maintained by women	20,076	60.2	1,468	12.1	48.1	20,318	61.0	1,427	11.5	47.9
Householder	10,714	61.6	559	8.5	18.4	10,992	62.2	559	8.2	17.2
Other family member(s)	9,362	58.6	909	16.6	66.4	9,326	59.6	868	15.6	67.7
In families maintained by men	5,675	68.2	363	9.4	58.1	5,817	70.0	375	9.2	54.1
Householder	2,824	75.2	167	7.9	35.1	2,883	77.1	165	7.4	33.0
Other family member(s)	2,851	61.2	196	11.3	77.6	2,934	62.9	210	11.3	70.7
White										
In families	127,339	66.0	4,454	5.3	72.3	127,496	66.4	4,078	4.8	72.6
In married-couple families	109,455	66.2	3,435	4.7	78.0	109,365	66.7	3,078	4.2	78.5
Husbands	45,780	78.3	1,291	3.6	62.6	45,980	78.1	1,155	3.2	64.1
Wives	45,724	55.6	950	3.7	85.0	45,926	57.0	841	3.2	83.9
Other family member(s)	17,951	62.4	1,194	10.7	89.3	17,459	62.1	1,082	10.0	89.6
In families maintained by women	13,415	63.0	763	9.0	51.6	13,654	63.1	755	8.8	52.7
Householder	7,303	63.0	287	6.2	23.3	7,448	63.6	297	6.3	21.0
Other family member(s)	6,112	62.9	476	12.4	68.8	6,206	62.5	458	11.8	73.4
In families maintained by men	4,469	69.3	255	8.2	57.3	4,477	70.5	245	7.8	59.6
Householder	2,239	76.5	119	7.0	33.7	2,235	77.7	108	6.2	39.4
Other family member(s)	2,230	62.1	136	9.8	77.6	2,242	63.3	137	9.7	75.3
Black										
In families	15,972	62.9	1,335	13.3	58.6	16,201	63.2	1,269	12.4	57.4
In married-couple families	8,913	68.5	562	9.2	76.9	9,026	67.0	510	8.4	79.6
Husbands	3,498	77.1	178	6.6	62.5	3,525	76.4	162	6.0	68.2
Wives	3,402	66.7	154	6.8	76.5	3,449	65.3	141	6.3	82.2
Other family member(s)	2,013	56.3	230	20.3	87.7	2,052	53.5	207	18.9	86.8
In families maintained by women	6,122	54.6	679	20.3	43.9	6,119	56.8	644	18.5	42.5
Householder	3,145	58.5	262	14.2	13.1	3,247	59.6	249	12.9	13.1
Other family member(s)	2,977	50.4	417	27.8	63.3	2,872	53.7	395	25.6	61.1
In families maintained by men	937	63.9	93	15.5	57.0	1,056	68.9	114	15.7	42.1
Householder	468	69.1	41	12.8	(1)	534	76.0	51	12.7	(1)
Other family member(s)	469	58.6	52	18.9	(1)	522	61.8	63	19.5	60.7
Hispanic origin										
In families	10,777	64.7	628	9.0	66.6	11,249	65.2	583	8.0	69.8
In married-couple families	8,186	66.5	458	8.4	72.1	8,369	65.9	400	7.2	74.0
Husbands	3,108	85.8	185	7.0	53.4	3,222	85.7	132	4.8	53.8
Wives	3,254	53.0	108	6.3	81.3	3,382	52.8	121	6.8	80.8
Other family member(s)	1,824	57.7	165	15.6	86.9	1,765	54.9	147	15.2	86.3
In families maintained by women	1,966	55.1	138	12.7	54.3	2,098	58.0	146	12.0	59.6
Householder	1,068	51.5	48	8.7	(1)	1,141	56.1	58	9.1	(1)
Other family member(s)	898	59.5	90	16.8	66.3	957	60.2	88	15.3	80.2
In families maintained by men	625	71.0	32	7.2	(1)	782	76.0	37	6.2	(1)
Householder	304	82.1	19	7.6	(1)	356	83.6	13	4.4	(1)
Other family member(s)	321	60.4	13	6.8	(1)	426	69.5	24	8.0	(1)

[1] Data not shown where base is less than 60,000.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Charactistic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	I 1988	I 1989	I 1988	I 1989	I 1988	I 1989
TOTAL						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	42,930	43,317	100.0	100.0	$580	$605
One earner	18,722	18,642	43.6	43.0	361	367
Two or more earners	24,208	24,676	56.4	57.0	763	794
Married-couple families	33,953	33,877	100.0	100.0	648	678
One earner	12,695	12,419	37.4	36.7	409	420
Husband	9,627	9,283	28.4	27.4	480	494
Wife	2,364	2,443	7.0	7.2	236	265
Other family member	704	693	2.1	2.0	211	225
Two or more earners	21,259	21,458	62.6	63.3	790	824
Husband and wife only	15,370	15,545	45.3	45.9	762	790
Husband, wife, and other family member(s)	3,340	3,498	9.8	10.3	1040	1097
Husband and other family member(s)	1,793	1,699	5.3	5.0	753	768
Wife and other family member(s)	599	560	1.8	1.7	470	499
Other family members only	158	156	.5	.5	474	589
Families maintained by women	7,023	7,362	100.0	100.0	323	344
One earner	4,832	5,016	68.8	68.1	260	272
Householder	3,784	3,969	53.9	53.9	267	278
Other family member	1,048	1,046	14.9	14.2	233	242
Two or more earners	2,190	2,347	31.2	31.9	534	567
Families maintained by men	1,954	2,078	100.0	100.0	468	482
One earner	1,195	1,207	61.2	58.1	375	347
Householder	921	964	47.1	46.4	425	396
Other family member	274	243	14.0	11.7	218	247
Two or more earners	759	870	38.8	41.9	654	672
White						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	36,748	36,968	100.0	100.0	597	626
One earner	15,766	15,557	42.9	42.1	383	389
Two or more earners	20,982	21,411	57.1	57.9	774	803
Married-couple families	30,211	30,167	100.0	100.0	655	687
One earner	11,450	11,111	37.9	36.8	420	436
Husband	8,829	8,434	29.2	28.0	487	503
Wife	2,000	2,088	6.6	6.9	244	270
Two or more earners	18,761	19,056	62.1	63.2	797	831
Husband and wife only	13,539	13,831	44.8	45.8	768	795
Families maintained by women	5,015	5,200	100.0	100.0	337	355
One earner	3,398	3,496	67.8	67.2	272	283
Two or more earners	1,617	1,703	32.2	32.8	543	572
Families maintained by men	1,523	1,601	100.0	100.0	483	490
One earner	919	950	60.3	59.3	398	370
Two or more earners	604	652	39.7	40.7	660	670
Black						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	4,884	5,027	100.0	100.0	421	438
One earner	2,424	2,530	49.6	50.3	250	267
Two or more earners	2,460	2,497	50.4	49.7	659	685
Married-couple families	2,701	2,624	100.0	100.0	575	572
One earner	867	890	32.1	33.9	268	297
Husband	525	560	19.4	21.3	318	347
Wife	280	280	10.4	10.7	196	223
Two or more earners	1,834	1,734	67.9	66.1	701	740
Husband and wife only	1,355	1,257	50.2	47.9	692	727
Families maintained by women	1,837	2,011	100.0	100.0	289	308
One earner	1,333	1,420	72.5	70.6	228	238
Two or more earners	505	591	27.5	29.4	502	551
Families maintained by men	346	392	100.0	100.0	393	454
One earner	164	186	47.5	47.5	334	319
Two or more earners	121	172	35.1	43.9	631	775

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Charactistic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	I 1988	I 1989	I 1988	I 1989	I 1988	I 1989
Hispanic origin						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	3,308	3,485	100.0	100.0	$432	$456
One earner	1,565	1,562	47.3	44.8	284	278
Two or more earners	1,743	1,923	52.7	55.2	604	638
Married-couple families	2,434	2,548	100.0	100.0	477	489
One earner	1,022	1,029	42.0	40.4	301	303
Husband	834	872	34.3	34.2	320	320
Wife	123	104	5.0	4.1	218	218
Two or more earners	1,412	1,519	58.0	59.6	639	641
Husband and wife only	943	1,037	38.7	40.7	597	621
Families maintained by women	658	674	100.0	100.0	297	338
One earner	424	414	64.5	61.5	205	212
Two or more earners	234	260	35.5	38.5	501	581
Families maintained by men	216	262	100.0	100.0	438	427
One earner	118	118	54.6	45.2	372	239
Two or more earners	98	144	45.4	54.8	([2])	677

[1] Data exclude families in which there is no wage or salary earner or in which the husband, wife, or other person maintaining the family is either self-employed or in the Armed Forces.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 7. Families with unemployed members and wage and salary earners by type of family and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Charactistic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	I 1988	I 1989	I 1988	I 1989	I 1988	I 1989
Families with unemployment and wage and salary earners[1]	3,388	3,197	—	—	$390	$396
Married-couple families	2,670	2,449	100.0	100.0	411	429
Husband unemployed	916	869	34.3	35.5	257	294
Wife only earner	721	664	27.0	27.1	234	263
Wife and other earner(s)	130	150	4.9	6.1	440	480
Other earners only	66	55	2.5	2.3	([2])	([2])
Wife unemployed	884	722	33.1	29.5	420	434
Husband only earner	747	616	28.0	25.1	403	415
Husband and other earner(s)	112	85	4.2	3.5	681	([2])
Other earners only	25	21	.9	.9	([2])	([2])
Other members unemployed	869	857	32.6	35.0	662	674
Husband or wife earners	338	347	12.7	14.2	495	484
Both husband and wife earners	491	469	18.4	19.1	820	864
Other combinations of earners	40	41	1.5	1.7	([2])	([2])
Families maintained by women[1]	520	573	100.0	100.0	306	296
Householder unemployed	81	106	15.5	18.5	([2])	288
Other member(s) unemployed	440	467	84.5	81.5	329	298
Families maintained by men[1]	197	175	100.0	100.0	424	381
Householder unemployed	59	41	29.7	23.5	([2])	([2])
Other member(s) unemployed	139	134	70.3	76.5	521	446

[1] Data exclude families in which there is no wage or salary earner or in which the husband, wife, or other person maintaining the family is either self-employed or in the Armed Forces.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

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EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES: THIRD QUARTER 1988

The number of families with an employed member who worked full time has continued to rise, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. About 48.8 million families had at least one member who worked 35 hours or more a week in the third quarter of 1988, 400,000 more than a year earlier. Median family wage and salary earnings rose as well, reaching $601 a week, 4 percent above the prior year's level. Other highlights from the third-quarter data follow.

--- More than 8 out of 10 of the nation's 64.6 million families had at least one member who was employed. Just 10.7 million (17 percent) had no member in the labor force, and, in three-fifths of these families, everyone was 60 years old or over. The number of families with no one working or looking for work grew by about 200,000 over the year, as the number of older persons in the population continued to increase. (See tables A and 1.)

--- The number of married-couple families with employed members rose by about 250,000 over the year to 42.7 million, or 84 percent of all married-couple families. Among these families, there was a particularly sharp increase in the number where both the husband and wife were working--700,000. (See table 2.)

--- Just over 5 million families had a member who was unemployed, about 300,000 fewer than a year earlier. Most of the drop was among families in which the husband was unemployed. (See table 3.)

--- There was little change overall in the number of employed mothers (18.7 million), despite a small rise among those with pre-schoolers. This reflected the fact that the number of families with children under 6 rose, while the number with 6 to 17 year olds continued to decline. For both groups, the proportions of mothers who were employed edged up. (See tables A and 4.)

--- At $674 a week, median wage and salary earnings of married-couple families were 4.7 percent higher than a year earlier. Families where both the husband and wife plus some other family member(s) worked had the highest earnings ($1,065). Where the wife or some other member (but not the husband) was the only worker, earnings were lowest (about $240). (See table 6.)

--- Median earnings of black families ($445) were only 72 percent of white family earnings ($620), while Hispanic families had median earnings ($489) that were about 79 percent of the median for whites. These differences stem from three factors: First, whites generally have higher earnings than blacks or Hispanics; second, white families are more likely to have two or more earners; and, third, a higher proportion of black families in particular, but Hispanic families as well, are maintained by women. (See table 6.)

Table A. Summary labor force characteristics of families, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	III 1987	III 1988	Change
Total families	64,057	64,586	529
With employed member(s)	52,119	52,510	391
Percent of total families	81.4	81.3	-.1
With member(s) employed full time	48,404	48,818	414
Percent of total families	75.6	75.6	-
With unemployed member(s)	5,380	5,050	-330
Percent with employed member(s)	72.5	72.0	-.5
Percent of total families	8.4	7.8	-.6
With unemployed member(s), none employed	1,478	1,415	-63
Percent of total families	2.3	2.2	-.1
With no members in labor force	10,460	10,661	201
Percent with no members under 60 years old	60.9	61.4	.5
Percent of total families	16.3	16.5	.2
With children under 18 years old	31,690	31,567	-123
Percent with employed parent(s)	88.6	88.8	.2
Percent with employed mother	58.6	59.1	.5
Percent of total families	49.5	48.9	-.6
With children under 6 years old	14,401	14,546	145
Percent with employed parent(s)	87.5	88.0	.5
Percent with employed mother	51.3	52.0	.7
Percent of total families	22.5	22.5	-

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The estimates in this release were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), which provides basic information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment. The survey is conducted monthly for the Bureau of Labor Statistics by the Bureau of the Census from a scientifically selected national sample of households, with coverage in all 50 States and the District of Columbia. The size of the monthly sample is about 59,500 households. The earnings data are collected from one-quarter of the CPS monthly sample and are limited to wages and salaries. The data, therefore, exclude self-employment income.

Reliability

In any sample survey, variations in the data can occur by chance because a sample, rather than the whole of the population, is surveyed. The standard error is a measure of such potential variation. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the survey differs from a figure that would be obtained from a complete census by less than one standard error. The chances are about 90 out of 100 that such a difference would be less than 1.6 standard errors. All statements of comparisons in the text of this release are significant at 1.6 or more standard errors.

Standard errors for numbers and proportions of families can be approximated using tables found in the Household Data section of the Explanatory Notes in Employment and Earnings. Representative standard errors for median family earnings are available from BLS upon request.

Definitions

The principal definitions used in this release are described briefly below.

Family. A family is a group of two or more persons residing together who are related by blood, marriage, or adoption. The count of families is for "primary" families only, that is, the householder and all other persons related to and residing with the householder. Not included are unrelated subfamilies. Families are classified either as married-couple families or families maintained by women or men without spouses.

Householder. A householder is the person in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented.

Children. Children are defined as "own" children, that is, never-married sons, daughters, step-children, and adopted children. Excluded are other related children, such as nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and cousins, and unrelated children.

FEDERAL DEPOSITORY

Employed. Employed persons are those who during the survey week: (a) Did any work at all as paid civilians; (b) worked in their own business or profession or on their own farms; or (c) worked 15 hours or more as an unpaid worker in a family operated enterprise. Also included are those who were temporarily absent from their jobs because of illness, vacation, bad weather, labor-management disputes, or personal reasons.

Full-time workers. Persons who usually work 35 hours or more per week on their sole or principal job. Persons who work less than 35 hours are part-time workers.

Unemployed. The unemployed are persons who had no employment during the survey week were available for work at that time and made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the prior 4 weeks. Persons laid off from their former jobs and awainting recall and those expecting to report to a job within 30 days need not be looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

Civilian labor force. The civilian labor force is the sum of the employed and the unemployed.

Wage and salary workers. Workers who receive wages, salaries, commissions, tips, payment in kind, or piece rates. Persons who report themselves as self-employed, including those whose businesses are incorporated, are excluded from coverage in these earnings data.

Usual weekly earnings. Data on usual weekly earnings are provided from responses to the question, "How much does...USUALLY earn per week at this job before deductions? Include any overtime pay, commissions, or tips usually received." The response is for the worker's sole or principal job, and the term "usual" is as perceived by the respondent. If the respondent asks for a definition of "usual," interviewers are instructed to define the term as more than half the weeks worked during the past 4 or 5 months.

Median weekly earnings. The median of weekly earnings is the value at which 50 percent of the earnings distribution lies above and 50 percent lies below. The estimating procedure places each reported earnings value into intervals which are centered around multiples of $50. The actual value is calculated through linear interpolation of the interval in which the median lies.

Over-the-year changes in the medians for component groups may not necessarily be consistent with the changes estimated for the overall median and therefore are not presented in this release. Circumstances under which this can occur include: (1) Even though medians of component groups may rise, if the lower-earnings group accounts for a sufficiently increased share of the total, the overall median can rise less than for any of the groups; and (2) survey observations tend to be clustered at rounded values, such as $250, $300, and $400, and an estimated median lying in a $50-wide centered interval containing such a cluster changes more slowly than one in non-clustered intervals. For example, if the medians for component groups are not in a cluster but the overall group median is, then the increase in the overall median will be less than for the components.

Table 1. Families by employment status of members, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	III 1987	III 1988	III 1987	III 1988
TOTAL				
Total families	64,057	64,586	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	10,460	10,661	16.3	16.5
With at least one member in the labor force	53,597	53,925	83.7	83.5
No member employed	1,478	1,415	2.3	2.2
Some member employed	52,119	52,510	81.4	81.3
No one unemployed	48,217	48,875	75.3	75.7
One or more employed full time	44,979	45,631	70.2	70.7
Some member unemployed	3,902	3,635	6.1	5.6
One or more employed full time	3,425	3,187	5.3	4.9
White				
Total families	55,171	55,571	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	8,967	9,097	16.3	16.4
With at least one member in the labor force	46,204	46,475	83.7	83.6
No member employed	949	938	1.7	1.7
Some member employed	45,256	45,537	82.0	81.9
No one unemployed	42,200	42,685	76.5	76.8
One or more employed full time	39,487	39,998	71.6	72.0
Some member unemployed	3,056	2,852	5.5	5.1
One or more employed full time	2,687	2,516	4.9	4.5
Black				
Total families	7,119	7,174	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	1,280	1,306	18.0	18.2
With at least one member in the labor force	5,838	5,868	82.0	81.8
No member employed	481	441	6.8	6.1
Some member employed	5,357	5,427	75.2	75.6
No one unemployed	4,657	4,759	65.4	66.3
One or more employed full time	4,208	4,297	59.1	59.9
Some member unemployed	700	668	9.8	9.3
One or more employed full time	609	569	8.6	7.9
Hispanic origin				
Total families	4,420	4,574	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	647	615	14.6	13.4
With at least one member in the labor force	3,774	3,959	85.4	86.6
No member employed	148	143	3.3	3.1
Some member employed	3,625	3,815	82.0	83.4
No one unemployed	3,229	3,428	73.1	74.9
One or more employed full time	2,973	3,189	67.3	69.7
Some member unemployed	396	387	9.0	8.5
One or more employed full time	337	336	7.6	7.3

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 2. Families by employment status of members and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	III 1987	III 1988	III 1987	III 1988
Married-couple families	50,691	51,051	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	7,585	7,750	15.0	15.2
With at least one member in the labor force	43,106	43,301	85.0	84.8
No member employed	653	594	1.3	1.2
Some member employed	42,453	42,707	83.7	83.7
Husband only	11,521	11,371	22.7	22.3
Wife only	2,275	2,139	4.5	4.2
Husband and wife	24,118	24,823	47.6	48.6
Husband and wife only	18,605	18,929	36.7	37.1
Other combinations	4,539	4,374	9.0	8.6
Families maintained by women	10,637	10,661	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	2,522	2,538	23.7	23.8
With at least one member in the labor force	8,115	8,123	76.3	76.2
No member employed	702	704	6.6	6.6
Some member employed	7,413	7,419	69.7	69.6
Householder employed	5,966	6,096	56.1	57.2
Householder only	3,547	3,666	33.3	34.4
Householder and other(s)	2,419	2,430	22.7	22.8
Other combinations	1,447	1,323	13.6	12.4
Families maintained by men	2,729	2,875	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	353	373	12.9	13.0
With at least one member in the labor force	2,376	2,502	87.1	87.0
No member employed	123	118	4.5	4.1
Some member employed	2,253	2,384	82.6	82.9
Householder employed	1,952	2,058	71.5	71.6
Householder only	1,000	1,055	36.6	36.7
Householder and other(s)	952	1,003	34.9	34.9
Other combinations	301	326	11.0	11.3

Table 3. Families with unemployed members by type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	III 1987	III 1988	III 1987	III 1988
Families with unemployment	5,380	5,050	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	3,902	3,635	72.5	72.0
With no members employed	1,478	1,415	27.5	28.0
Married-couple families	3,698	3,379	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	3,045	2,786	82.3	82.5
With no members employed	653	594	17.7	17.6
With husband unemployed	1,283	1,082	34.7	32.0
Wife employed	745	608	20.1	18.0
Other(s) employed	80	70	2.2	2.1
No one employed	457	404	12.4	12.0
With wife unemployed	1,082	1,051	29.3	31.1
Husband employed	998	961	27.0	28.4
Other(s) employed	16	14	.4	.4
No one employed	68	76	1.8	2.2
With other member(s) unemployed	1,333	1,246	36.0	36.9
Families maintained by women	1,366	1,349	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	664	645	48.6	47.8
With no members employed	702	704	51.4	52.2
With householder unemployed	619	548	45.3	40.6
Other(s) employed	118	80	8.6	5.9
No one employed	501	468	36.7	34.7
With other member(s) unemployed	747	801	54.7	59.4
Families maintained by men	316	322	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	194	204	61.4	63.4
With no members employed	123	118	38.9	36.6
With householder unemployed	124	126	39.2	39.1
Other(s) employed	41	42	13.0	13.0
No one employed	83	84	26.3	26.1
With other member(s) unemployed	192	196	60.8	60.9

Table 4. Families with children under 18 years old by the employment status of parent(s) and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(in thousands)

Characteristic	III 1987			III 1988		
	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old
Total families	31,690	17,289	14,401	31,567	17,021	14,546
Married-couple families	24,286	12,596	11,690	24,058	12,383	11,675
With employed parent(s)	23,339	12,098	11,240	23,194	11,915	11,279
Neither unemployed	22,195	11,493	10,702	22,215	11,398	10,815
Father employed	7,973	3,386	4,587	7,851	3,254	4,596
Mother employed	448	309	139	432	305	126
Both employed	13,774	7,798	5,976	13,932	7,839	6,093
One unemployed	1,144	605	538	980	517	464
Father unemployed	463	262	201	368	219	150
Mother unemployed	681	343	337	612	298	314
With no employed parent	948	498	450	864	466	397
Father unemployed	273	97	176	251	95	155
Mother unemployed	30	16	14	39	20	19
Both unemployed	89	42	47	62	24	38
Neither in labor force	556	343	213	512	327	185
Families maintained by women	6,373	4,008	2,365	6,383	3,923	2,460
Mother employed	3,886	2,820	1,066	3,925	2,737	1,188
Mother not employed	2,487	1,188	1,300	2,458	1,186	1,271
Unemployed	531	284	247	480	245	234
Not in labor force	1,956	904	1,053	1,978	941	1,037
Families maintained by men	1,031	685	346	1,127	716	411
Father employed	845	555	290	920	593	327
Father not employed	186	130	55	207	122	84
Unemployed	64	37	27	76	37	39
Not in labor force	122	93	28	131	85	45
Total families with unemployed parents	2,131	1,081	1,049	1,888	938	949

Table 5. Employment status of persons in families by family relationship, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	III 1987					III 1988				
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed			Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed		
			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)
TOTAL										
In families	148,036	66.8	5,890	6.0	70.4	148,792	67.2	5,465	5.5	70.2
In married-couple families	122,695	67.4	4,040	4.9	79.8	123,259	67.8	3,628	4.3	79.8
Husbands	50,691	78.5	1,283	3.2	64.4	51,051	78.4	1,082	2.7	62.7
Wives	50,691	55.7	1,204	4.3	85.8	51,051	56.2	1,150	4.0	85.6
Other family member(s)	21,313	68.9	1,553	10.6	87.9	21,157	69.8	1,396	9.5	88.2
In families maintained by women	19,857	62.4	1,518	12.2	48.0	19,837	62.4	1,493	12.1	49.0
Householder	10,637	61.9	619	9.4	19.1	10,661	62.3	548	8.3	14.7
Other family member(s)	9,220	63.0	899	15.5	67.9	9,176	62.5	945	16.5	68.9
In families maintained by men	5,484	70.0	332	8.6	58.1	5,697	70.9	344	8.5	61.0
Householder	2,729	76.1	124	6.0	33.1	2,875	76.0	126	5.8	32.7
Other family member(s)	2,755	64.0	208	11.8	73.0	2,822	65.7	218	11.8	77.2
White										
In families	127,388	67.1	4,294	5.0	74.0	127,775	67.5	4,010	4.6	73.1
In married-couple families	109,715	67.3	3,283	4.4	80.2	110,044	67.7	2,968	4.0	79.8
Husbands	45,752	78.5	1,077	3.0	64.2	46,065	78.4	907	2.5	61.3
Wives	45,726	55.0	1,005	4.0	86.7	45,977	55.5	961	3.8	86.2
Other family member(s)	18,237	70.4	1,201	9.4	89.0	18,002	71.6	1,100	8.5	89.3
In families maintained by women	13,470	64.1	782	9.1	52.9	13,303	64.6	798	9.3	51.1
Householder	7,313	62.1	303	6.7	26.6	7,267	63.3	286	6.2	18.9
Other family member(s)	6,157	66.5	479	11.7	69.6	6,036	66.2	512	12.8	69.1
In families maintained by men	4,203	70.9	229	7.7	58.1	4,428	72.4	244	7.6	64.8
Householder	2,105	77.2	83	5.1	32.9	2,239	77.7	83	4.8	36.9
Other family member(s)	2,098	64.6	146	10.7	72.6	2,189	66.9	161	11.0	78.9
Black										
In families	16,041	65.3	1,393	13.3	58.5	16,173	65.2	1,293	12.3	60.9
In married-couple families	9,180	69.2	615	9.7	77.9	9,209	69.5	538	8.4	80.7
Husbands	3,562	77.6	162	5.9	67.5	3,561	77.9	131	4.7	70.4
Wives	3,448	65.1	159	7.1	79.9	3,467	65.5	149	6.6	84.3
Other family member(s)	2,170	61.7	294	22.0	82.5	2,181	62.3	258	19.0	84.3
In families maintained by women	5,852	58.7	691	20.1	41.7	5,981	58.4	671	19.2	46.9
Householder	3,056	61.2	299	16.0	10.9	3,115	61.1	250	13.1	9.9
Other family member(s)	2,796	56.0	392	25.0	65.0	2,866	55.5	421	26.5	68.8
In families maintained by men	1,009	67.8	86	12.6	55.8	983	65.4	85	13.2	44.7
Householder	509	71.0	31	8.5	(1)	512	68.1	36	10.2	(1)
Other family member(s)	500	64.6	55	17.0	(1)	471	62.4	49	16.6	(1)
Hispanic origin										
In families	10,746	65.2	592	8.4	71.6	11,143	66.6	598	8.1	72.5
In married-couple families	8,243	66.5	430	7.8	76.3	8,576	67.8	422	7.3	75.1
Husbands	3,113	85.0	145	5.5	55.3	3,235	86.4	143	5.1	53.8
Wives	3,241	51.7	121	7.2	84.4	3,326	51.3	106	6.2	79.0
Other family member(s)	1,889	61.5	164	14.1	89.4	2,015	65.1	173	13.2	90.0
In families maintained by women	1,863	55.2	128	12.5	56.3	1,887	56.8	133	12.4	60.2
Householder	1,012	53.0	48	8.9	(1)	1,044	54.2	39	6.9	(1)
Other family member(s)	851	57.8	80	16.3	68.8	843	60.1	94	18.5	77.3
In families maintained by men	640	77.5	34	6.9	(1)	680	78.2	43	8.1	(1)
Householder	290	84.3	10	4.1	(1)	304	85.0	18	7.0	(1)
Other family member(s)	350	71.7	24	9.7	(1)	376	72.9	25	9.2	(1)

[1] Data not shown where base is less than 60,000.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	III 1987	III 1988	III 1987	III 1988	III 1987	III 1988
TOTAL						
Families with wage and salary earners[1]	43,008	43,242	100.0	100.0	$578	$601
One earner	18,436	18,369	42.9	42.5	352	373
Two or more earners	24,572	24,873	57.1	57.5	760	793
Married-couple families	34,077	34,143	100.0	100.0	644	674
One earner	12,720	12,463	37.3	36.5	403	420
Husband	9,665	9,619	28.4	28.2	470	487
Wife	2,217	2,006	6.5	5.9	246	240
Other family member	837	838	2.5	2.5	216	236
Two or more earners	21,358	21,680	62.7	63.5	790	826
Husband and wife only	14,704	14,893	43.1	43.6	747	779
Husband, wife, and other family members	3,724	4,041	10.9	11.8	1043	1065
Husband and other family member(s)	2,239	2,116	6.6	6.2	771	807
Wife and other family member(s)	572	491	1.7	1.4	580	530
Other family members only	119	139	.3	.4	550	498
Families maintained by women	6,987	6,998	100.0	100.0	316	343
One earner	4,626	4,716	66.2	67.4	250	266
Householder	3,518	3,693	50.4	52.8	260	278
Other family member	1,108	1,023	15.9	14.6	212	221
Two or more earners	2,361	2,282	33.8	32.6	527	553
Families maintained by men	1,943	2,101	100.0	100.0	495	499
One earner	1,090	1,191	56.1	56.7	367	374
Householder	891	961	45.8	45.7	395	393
Other family member	199	230	10.3	10.9	229	277
Two or more earners	853	910	43.9	43.3	691	714
White						
Families with wage and salary earners[1]	36,674	36,896	100.0	100.0	598	620
One earner	15,398	15,324	42.0	41.5	374	390
Two or more earners	21,276	21,572	58.0	58.5	773	807
Married-couple families	30,336	30,365	100.0	100.0	653	683
One earner	11,421	11,206	37.6	36.9	412	431
Husband	8,777	8,725	28.9	28.7	478	494
Wife	1,909	1,737	6.3	5.7	243	241
Two or more earners	18,915	19,160	62.4	63.1	796	837
Husband and wife only	13,044	13,162	43.0	43.3	751	790
Families maintained by women	4,892	4,882	100.0	100.0	326	360
One earner	3,177	3,181	65.0	65.1	259	276
Two or more earners	1,714	1,701	35.0	34.9	541	559
Families maintained by men	1,446	1,649	100.0	100.0	508	500
One earner	800	938	55.3	56.9	392	384
Two or more earners	646	711	44.7	43.1	704	725
Black						
Families with wage and salary earners[1]	5,083	5,142	100.0	100.0	409	445
One earner	2,520	2,536	49.6	49.3	255	266
Two or more earners	2,563	2,606	50.4	50.7	634	661
Married-couple families	2,738	2,799	100.0	100.0	540	577
One earner	933	882	34.1	31.5	295	297
Husband	607	581	22.2	20.8	333	378
Wife	248	211	9.1	7.5	249	220
Two or more earners	1,805	1,918	65.9	68.5	702	700
Husband and wife only	1,252	1,342	45.7	47.9	691	665
Families maintained by women	1,925	1,970	100.0	100.0	293	303
One earner	1,337	1,432	69.5	72.7	229	239
Two or more earners	587	537	30.5	27.3	499	521
Families maintained by men	421	372	100.0	100.0	385	452
One earner	250	222	59.4	59.6	266	310
Two or more earners	171	151	40.6	40.4	559	682

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Charactistic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	III 1987	III 1988	III 1987	III 1988	III 1987	III 1988
Hispanic origin						
Families with wage and salary earners[1]	3,228	3,305	100.0	100.0	$417	$489
One earner	1,537	1,520	47.6	46.0	266	276
Two or more earners	1,691	1,785	52.4	54.0	598	669
Married-couple families	2,422	2,444	100.0	100.0	468	518
One earner	1,041	1,001	43.0	40.9	285	303
Husband	835	821	34.5	33.6	303	327
Wife	148	103	6.1	4.2	235	257
Two or more earners	1,382	1,444	57.0	59.1	616	682
Husband and wife only	874	839	36.1	34.3	593	623
Families maintained by women	573	614	100.0	100.0	275	295
One earner	397	408	69.2	66.4	212	228
Two or more earners	177	206	30.8	33.6	468	590
Families maintained by men	232	247	100.0	100.0	443	522
One earner	99	111	42.7	45.1	([2])	294
Two or more earners	133	136	57.3	54.9	537	669

[1] Data exclude families in which there is no wage or salary earner or in which the husband, wife, or other person maintaining the family is either self-employed or in the Armed Forces.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

Table 7. Families with unemployed members and wage and salary earners by type of family and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quartly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Charactistic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	III 1987	III 1988	III 1987	III 1988	III 1987	III 1988
Families with unemployment and wage and salary earners[1]	3,535	3,259	—	—	$384	$408
Married-couple families	2,760	2,450	100.0	100.0	407	465
Husband unemployed	874	655	31.7	26.7	264	292
Wife only earner	684	502	24.8	20.5	247	269
Wife and other earner(s)	107	111	3.9	4.5	550	482
Other earner(s) only	83	42	3.0	1.7	([2])	([2])
Wife unemployed	941	916	34.1	37.4	434	453
Husband only earner	766	791	27.7	32.3	398	426
Husband and other earner(s)	158	106	5.7	4.3	679	672
Other earner(s) only	17	19	.6	.8	([2])	([2])
Other member(s) unemployed	945	879	34.2	35.9	627	661
Husband or wife earners	409	330	14.8	13.5	469	492
Both husband and wife earners	471	505	17.1	20.6	797	872
Other combinations of earners	65	44	2.3	1.8	([2])	([2])
Families maintained by women[1]	595	608	100.0	100.0	265	292
Householder unemployed	112	61	18.9	10.0	206	([2])
Other member(s) unemployed	482	547	81.1	90.0	279	305
Families maintained by men[1]	180	202	100.0	100.0	388	368
Householder unemployed	37	55	20.3	27.4	([2])	([2])
Other member(s) unemployed	143	147	79.7	72.6	429	413

[1] Data exclude families in which there is no wage or salary earner or in which the husband, wife, or other person maintaining the family is either self-employed or in the Armed Forces.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

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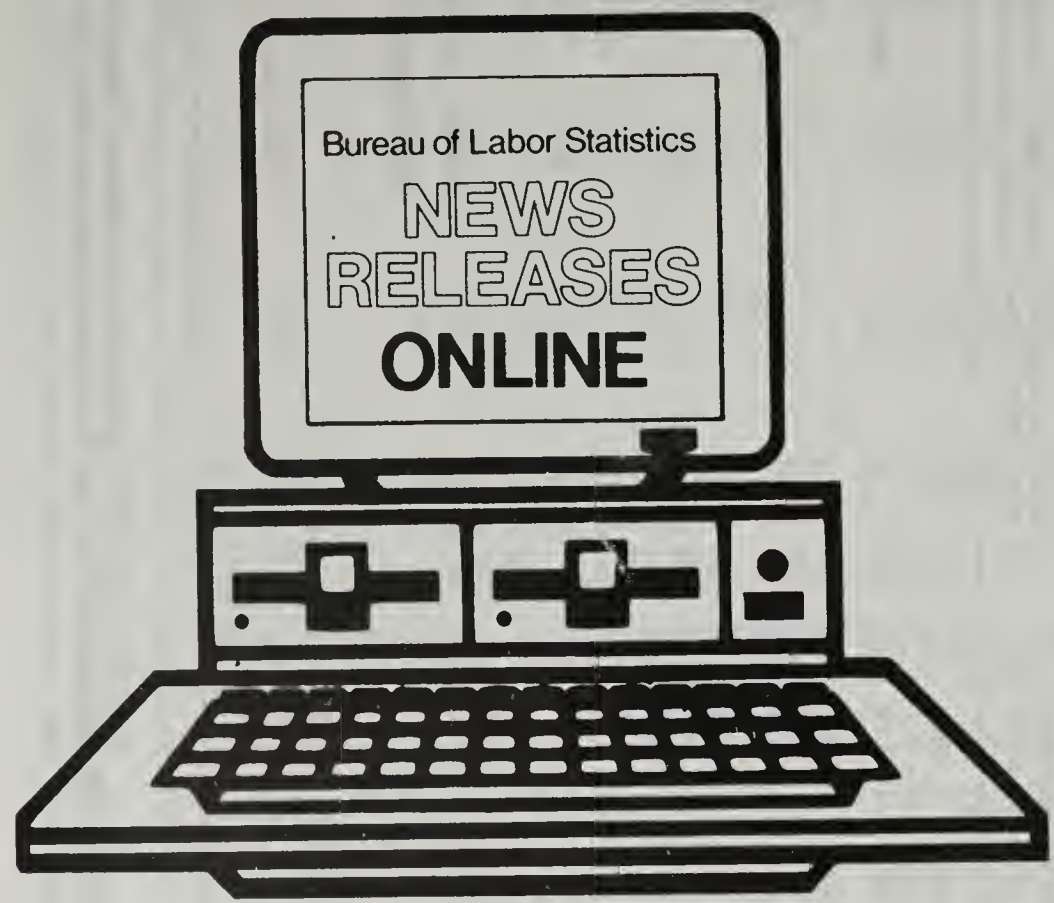

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EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES: SECOND QUARTER 1988

The number of families with employed members continued to grow, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. About 52.2 million families had an employed member in the second quarter of 1988, 300,000 more than in the same quarter a year earlier. Median family earnings also continued to move up, rising 4.4 percent to $597 a week. Other highlights in the second quarter of 1988 were:

--- Over 90 percent of the families with employed members had at least one full-time worker--48.4 million in all--400,000 more than a year earlier. The number with no member in the labor force also rose, but, in three-fifths of these families, all members were 60 years old or over. (See tables A and 1.)

--- The number of families with unemployed members fell by 800,000 to just under 5 million; in 72 percent of these families, there was an employed member. Families maintained by women--about 16 percent of all U.S. families--comprised 47 percent of those with unemployment and no employed members. (See tables A and 3.)

--- The number of families in which both the husband and wife were employed jumped by 660,000 to reach 24.9 million, or half of all married-couple families. All of the gain was among families with no children under 18. The number of families with children and both parents working remained unchanged at 14 million. (See tables 2 and 4.)

--- Median wage and salary earnings of two-worker families were about double those of one-worker families. The earnings of married-couple families were much higher than those of families maintained by women or men. Over the year, the earnings of married-couple families increased by 4.5 percent while earnings of the other two groups grew by 5.4 and 5.6 percent, respectively. (See table 6.)

--- Median earnings of black married-couple families were 86 percent of the median for white married couples. The median for Hispanic married couples was 72 percent of that for whites, partly because there are relatively fewer multi-earner families among Hispanics. (See table 6.)

Table A. Summary labor force characteristics of families, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	II 1987	II 1988	Change
Total families	64,001	64,249	248
With employed member(s)	51,876	52,188	312
Percent of total families	81.1	81.2	.1
With member(s) employed full time	47,971	48,373	402
Percent of total families	75.0	75.3	.3
With unemployed member(s)	5,770	4,951	-819
Percent with employed member(s)	71.3	72.3	1.0
Percent of total families	9.0	7.7	-1.3
With unemployed member(s), none employed	1,657	1,372	-285
Percent of total families	2.6	2.1	-.5
With no members in labor force	10,469	10,690	221
Percent with no members under 60 years old	60.5	60.3	-.2
Percent of total families	16.4	16.6	.2
With children under 18 years old	31,890	31,485	-405
Percent with employed parent(s)	88.3	88.6	.3
Percent with employed mother	59.2	59.4	.2
Percent of total families	49.8	49.0	-.8
With children under 6 years old	14,555	14,392	-163
Percent with employed parent(s)	87.2	87.7	.5
Percent with employed mother	51.9	52.1	.2
Percent of total families	22.7	22.4	-.3

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The estimates in this release were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), which provides basic information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment. The survey is conducted monthly for the Bureau of Labor Statistics by the Bureau of the Census from a scientifically selected national sample of households, with coverage in all 50 States and the District of Columbia. The size of the monthly sample is about 55,800 households. The earnings data are collected from one-quarter of the CPS monthly sample and are limited to wages and salaries. The data, therefore, exclude self-employment income.

Reliability

In any sample survey, variations in the data can occur by chance because a sample, rather than the whole of the population, is surveyed. The standard error is a measure of such potential variation. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the survey differs from a figure that would be obtained from a complete census by less than one standard error. The chances are about 90 out of 100 that such a difference would be less than 1.6 standard errors. All statements of comparisons in the text of this release are significant at 1.6 or more standard errors.

Standard errors for numbers and proportions of families can be approximated using tables found in the Household Data section of the Explanatory Notes in Employment and Earnings. Representative standard errors for median family earnings are available from BLS upon request.

Definitions

The principal definitions used in this release are described briefly below.

Family. A family is a group of two or more persons residing together who are related by blood, marriage, or adoption. The count of families is for "primary" families only, that is, the householder and all other persons related to and residing with the householder. Not included are unrelated subfamilies. Families are classified either as married-couple families or families maintained by women or men without spouses.

Householder. A householder is the person in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented.

Children. Children are defined as "own" children, that is, never-married sons, daughters, step-children, and adopted children. Excluded are other related children, such as nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and cousins, and unrelated children.

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Employed. Employed persons are those who during the survey week: (a) Did any work at all as paid civilians; (b) worked in their own business or profession or on their own farms; or (c) worked 15 hours or more as an unpaid worker in a family operated enterprise. Also included are those who were temporarily absent from their jobs because of illness, vacation, bad weather, labor-management disputes, or personal reasons.

Full-time workers. Persons who usually work 35 hours or more per week on their sole or principal job. Persons who work less than 35 hours are part-time workers.

Unemployed. The unemployed are persons who had no employment during the survey week were available for work at that time and made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the prior 4 weeks. Persons laid off from their former jobs and awainting recall and those expecting to report to a job within 30 days need not be looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

Civilian labor force. The civilian labor force is the sum of the employed and the unemployed.

Wage and salary workers. Workers who receive wages, salaries, commissions, tips, payment in kind, or piece rates. Persons who report themselves as self-employed, including those whose businesses are incorporated, are excluded from coverage in these earnings data.

Usual weekly earnings. Data on usual weekly earnings are provided from responses to the question, "How much does...USUALLY earn per week at this job before deductions? Include any overtime pay, commissions, or tips usually received." The response is for the worker's sole or principal job, and the term "usual" is as perceived by the respondent. If the respondent asks for a definition of "usual," interviewers are instructed to define the term as more than half the weeks worked during the past 4 or 5 months.

Median weekly earnings. The median of weekly earnings is the value at which 50 percent of the earnings distribution lies above and 50 percent lies below. The estimating procedure places each reported earnings value into intervals which are centered around multiples of $50. The actual value is calculated through linear interpolation of the interval in which the median lies.

Over-the-year changes in the medians for component groups may not necessarily be consistent with the changes estimated for the overall median and therefore are not presented in this release. Circumstances under which this can occur include: (1) Even though medians of component groups may rise, if the lower-earnings group accounts for a sufficiently increased share of the total, the overall median can rise less than for any of the groups; and (2) survey observations tend to be clustered at rounded values, such as $250, $300, and $400, and an estimated median lying in a $50-wide centered interval containing such a cluster changes more slowly than one in non-clustered intervals. For example, if the medians for component groups are not in a cluster but the overall group median is, then the increase in the overall median will be less than for the components.

Table 1. Families by employment status of members, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	II 1987	II 1988	II 1987	II 1988
TOTAL				
Total families	64,001	64,249	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	10,469	10,690	16.4	16.6
With at least one member in the labor force	53,533	53,559	83.6	83.4
No member employed	1,657	1,372	2.6	2.1
Some member employed	51,876	52,188	81.1	81.2
No one unemployed	47,763	48,609	74.6	75.7
One or more employed full time	44,376	45,246	69.3	70.4
Some member unemployed	4,113	3,579	6.4	5.6
One or more employed full time	3,595	3,127	5.6	4.9
White				
Total families	55,167	55,317	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	8,905	8,969	16.1	16.2
With at least one member in the labor force	46,261	46,348	83.9	83.8
No member employed	1,110	876	2.0	1.6
Some member employed	45,152	45,472	81.8	82.2
No one unemployed	41,936	42,671	76.0	77.1
One or more employed full time	39,053	39,867	70.8	72.1
Some member unemployed	3,216	2,801	5.8	5.1
One or more employed full time	2,822	2,452	5.1	4.4
Black				
Total families	7,076	7,095	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	1,361	1,443	19.2	20.3
With at least one member in the labor force	5,716	5,652	80.8	79.7
No member employed	489	449	6.9	6.3
Some member employed	5,227	5,203	73.9	73.3
No one unemployed	4,461	4,541	63.0	64.0
One or more employed full time	4,046	4,068	57.2	57.3
Some member unemployed	766	662	10.8	9.3
One or more employed full time	657	573	9.3	8.1
Hispanic origin				
Total families	4,392	4,489	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	649	598	14.8	13.3
With at least one member in the labor force	3,743	3,891	85.2	86.7
No member employed	182	172	4.1	3.8
Some member employed	3,561	3,719	81.1	82.8
No one unemployed	3,157	3,327	71.9	74.1
One or more employed full time	2,921	3,102	66.5	69.1
Some member unemployed	404	392	9.2	8.7
One or more employed full time	356	327	8.1	7.3

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 2. Families by employment status of members and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	II 1987	II 1988	II 1987	II 1988
Married-couple families	50,652	50,767	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	7,564	7,684	14.9	15.1
With at least one member in the labor force	43,088	43,083	85.1	84.9
No member employed	780	606	1.5	1.2
Some member employed	42,309	42,477	83.5	83.7
Husband only	11,416	11,330	22.5	22.3
Wife only	2,404	2,251	4.7	4.4
Husband and wife	24,196	24,858	47.8	49.0
Husband and wife only	18,951	19,463	37.4	38.3
Other combinations	4,293	4,038	8.5	8.0
Families maintained by women	10,561	10,540	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	2,545	2,627	24.1	24.9
With at least one member in the labor force	8,016	7,913	75.9	75.1
No member employed	752	647	7.1	6.1
Some member employed	7,265	7,266	68.8	68.9
Householder employed	5,946	5,965	56.3	56.6
Householder only	3,758	3,790	35.6	36.0
Householder and other(s)	2,188	2,175	20.7	20.6
Other combinations	1,319	1,301	12.5	12.3
Families maintained by men	2,788	2,943	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	359	379	12.9	12.9
With at least one member in the labor force	2,428	2,564	87.1	87.1
No member employed	125	119	4.5	4.0
Some member employed	2,303	2,445	82.6	83.1
Householder employed	1,981	2,128	71.1	72.3
Householder only	1,044	1,108	37.4	37.6
Householder and other(s)	937	1,020	33.6	34.7
Other combinations	322	317	11.5	10.8

Table 3. Families with unemployed members by type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	II 1987	II 1988	II 1987	II 1988
Families with unemployment	5,770	4,951	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	4,113	3,579	71.3	72.3
With no members employed	1,657	1,372	28.7	27.7
Married-couple families	3,984	3,370	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	3,204	2,764	80.4	82.0
With no members employed	780	606	19.6	18.0
With husband unemployed	1,501	1,151	37.7	34.2
Wife employed	839	664	21.1	19.7
Other(s) employed	93	67	2.3	2.0
No one employed	570	420	14.3	12.5
With wife unemployed	948	865	23.8	25.7
Husband employed	864	762	21.7	22.6
Other(s) employed	12	19	.3	.6
No one employed	72	84	1.8	2.5
With other member(s) unemployed	1,535	1,354	38.5	40.2
Families maintained by women	1,437	1,269	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	686	622	47.7	49.0
With no members employed	752	647	52.3	51.0
With householder unemployed	611	534	42.5	42.1
Other(s) employed	88	90	6.1	7.1
No one employed	523	444	36.4	35.0
With other member(s) unemployed	826	735	57.5	57.9
Families maintained by men	349	312	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	223	193	63.9	61.9
With no members employed	125	119	35.8	38.1
With householder unemployed	144	149	41.3	47.8
Other(s) employed	52	53	14.9	17.0
No one employed	92	96	26.4	30.8
With other member(s) unemployed	205	163	58.7	52.2

Table 4. Families with children under 18 years old by the employment status of parent(s) and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(In thousands)

Characteristic	II 1987			II 1988		
	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old
Total families	31,890	17,335	14,555	31,485	17,092	14,392
Married-couple families	24,359	12,575	11,784	23,955	12,458	11,497
With employed parent(s)	23,364	12,056	11,308	23,013	11,931	11,081
Neither unemployed	22,292	11,508	10,784	22,108	11,441	10,667
Father employed	7,841	3,281	4,560	7,673	3,149	4,525
Mother employed	485	326	159	469	322	146
Both employed	13,966	7,901	6,065	13,966	7,970	5,996
One unemployed	1,072	549	524	905	491	414
Father unemployed	511	281	230	405	237	168
Mother unemployed	561	268	294	500	254	246
With no employed parent	995	519	476	943	526	416
Father unemployed	345	122	223	253	110	143
Mother unemployed	35	19	16	48	36	12
Both unemployed	83	40	43	71	28	42
Neither in labor force	532	338	194	571	352	219
Families maintained by women	6,454	4,031	2,423	6,327	3,842	2,485
Mother employed	3,922	2,821	1,102	3,862	2,669	1,193
Mother not employed	2,531	1,210	1,321	2,465	1,173	1,292
Unemployed	526	261	265	462	254	208
Not in labor force	2,005	949	1,056	2,003	919	1,084
Families maintained by men	1,078	729	349	1,202	792	410
Father employed	886	601	285	1,010	664	345
Father not employed	192	127	64	193	128	65
Unemployed	82	45	37	75	45	30
Not in labor force	110	82	27	118	83	35
Total families with unemployed parents	2,143	1,036	1,108	1,814	964	849

Table 5. Employment status of persons in families by family relationship, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	II 1987					II 1988				
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed			Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed		
			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)
TOTAL										
In families	148,117	66.2	6,259	6.4	68.8	148,526	66.3	5,409	5.5	70.3
In married-couple families	122,860	66.9	4,300	5.2	77.7	122,858	67.1	3,646	4.4	79.8
Husbands	50,652	78.6	1,501	3.8	62.1	50,767	78.4	1,151	2.9	63.5
Wives	50,652	55.9	1,079	3.8	82.5	50,767	56.4	960	3.4	82.4
Other family member(s)	21,556	65.3	1,720	12.2	88.3	21,324	65.6	1,535	11.0	90.3
In families maintained by women	19,688	60.8	1,592	13.3	46.5	19,748	60.5	1,414	11.8	48.9
Householder	10,561	62.1	611	9.3	14.4	10,540	61.7	534	8.2	16.8
Other family member(s)	9,127	59.4	981	18.1	66.4	9,208	59.1	880	16.2	68.4
In families maintained by men	5,569	69.3	367	9.5	61.3	5,921	70.1	350	8.4	58.3
Householder	2,788	76.2	144	6.8	35.8	2,943	77.4	149	6.6	36.0
Other family member(s)	2,781	62.4	223	12.8	78.3	2,978	62.9	201	10.7	74.5
White										
In families	127,591	66.6	4,595	5.4	71.7	127,667	66.9	3,894	4.6	74.1
In married-couple families	110,111	66.9	3,527	4.8	77.9	109,954	67.1	2,971	4.0	80.4
Husbands	45,799	78.6	1,260	3.5	61.5	45,904	78.4	966	2.7	64.0
Wives	45,779	55.2	894	3.5	83.3	45,821	55.7	781	3.1	84.3
Other family member(s)	18,533	67.1	1,373	11.0	89.3	18,229	67.5	1,224	9.9	91.0
In families maintained by women	13,224	62.8	817	9.8	48.2	13,171	63.3	709	8.5	51.1
Householder	7,216	63.0	318	7.0	15.8	7,124	63.3	264	5.9	19.9
Other family member(s)	6,008	62.5	499	13.3	68.9	6,047	63.3	445	11.6	69.6
In families maintained by men	4,256	70.0	251	8.4	61.4	4,542	71.3	213	6.6	62.4
Householder	2,154	77.0	97	5.8	38.2	2,284	78.8	92	5.1	42.3
Other family member(s)	2,102	62.8	154	11.7	75.8	2,258	63.7	121	8.4	77.6
Black										
In families	16,004	63.5	1,459	14.3	60.0	16,067	63.0	1,336	13.2	59.2
In married-couple families	9,026	68.0	626	10.2	78.0	9,009	68.1	554	9.0	76.7
Husbands	3,499	77.7	180	6.6	67.0	3,473	78.1	143	5.3	61.0
Wives	3,404	64.5	150	6.8	80.1	3,384	65.0	142	6.5	71.4
Other family member(s)	2,123	57.6	296	24.2	83.5	2,152	56.8	269	22.0	87.9
In families maintained by women	5,904	56.2	735	22.1	44.4	5,991	54.5	671	20.5	46.8
Householder	3,065	59.9	278	15.1	12.4	3,102	58.3	257	14.2	14.6
Other family member(s)	2,839	52.3	457	30.8	63.8	2,889	50.5	414	28.4	66.6
In families maintained by men	1,074	66.4	98	13.7	62.2	1,067	68.0	112	15.4	46.4
Householder	526	72.1	41	10.7	(1)	535	72.2	50	12.9	(1)
Other family member(s)	548	60.9	57	17.2	(1)	532	63.8	62	18.4	69.3
Hispanic origin										
In families	10,636	64.4	632	9.2	66.1	10,989	65.7	646	9.0	67.3
In married-couple families	8,145	66.7	434	8.0	74.2	8,364	67.5	465	8.2	75.7
Husbands	3,083	85.0	166	6.4	53.8	3,161	85.6	152	5.6	61.5
Wives	3,178	53.1	112	6.6	82.6	3,271	52.0	107	6.3	77.8
Other family member(s)	1,884	59.5	156	13.9	90.0	1,932	64.2	206	16.6	85.5
In families maintained by women	1,902	52.3	148	14.9	42.6	1,822	52.0	136	14.3	42.6
Householder	1,025	50.6	61	11.8	15.2	971	50.3	42	8.6	(1)
Other family member(s)	877	54.1	87	18.3	62.5	851	54.0	94	20.4	56.6
In families maintained by men	589	72.7	50	11.7	(1)	803	77.5	46	7.4	(1)
Householder	275	81.7	22	9.8	(1)	354	85.4	23	7.5	(1)
Other family member(s)	314	64.6	28	13.7	(1)	449	71.2	23	7.2	(1)

[1] Data not shown where base is less than 60,000.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	II 1987	II 1988	II 1987	II 1988	II 1987	II 1988
TOTAL						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	42,634	42,637	100.0	100.0	$572	$597
One earner	18,579	18,201	43.6	42.7	353	367
Two or more earners	24,055	24,436	56.4	57.3	741	782
Married-couple families	33,742	33,839	100.0	100.0	639	668
One earner	12,574	12,400	37.3	36.6	405	418
Husband	9,649	9,532	28.6	28.2	476	490
Wife	2,250	2,121	6.7	6.3	223	232
Other family member	675	747	2.0	2.2	216	236
Two or more earners	21,167	21,439	62.7	63.4	767	809
Husband and wife only	14,826	15,375	43.9	45.4	728	770
Husband, wife, and other family member(s)	3,625	3,601	10.7	10.6	995	1037
Husband and other family member(s)	1,987	1,806	5.9	5.3	752	804
Wife and other family member(s)	556	465	1.6	1.4	531	466
Other family members only	173	192	.5	.6	433	507
Families maintained by women	6,832	6,679	100.0	100.0	313	330
One earner	4,744	4,592	69.4	68.7	256	258
Householder	3,753	3,645	54.9	54.6	267	267
Other family member	991	947	14.5	14.2	209	224
Two or more earners	2,089	2,087	30.6	31.3	511	559
Families maintained by men	2,060	2,119	100.0	100.0	467	493
One earner	1,261	1,209	61.2	57.1	346	379
Householder	1,013	995	49.2	46.9	383	400
Other family member	248	214	12.0	10.1	212	261
Two or more earners	799	910	38.8	42.9	655	713
White						
Families with wage or salary earners	36,486	36,570	100.0	100.0	593	616
One earner	15,599	15,313	42.8	41.9	378	389
Two or more earners	20,887	21,257	57.2	58.1	754	792
Married-couple families	30,082	30,173	100.0	100.0	648	676
One earner	11,357	11,207	37.8	37.1	415	433
Husband	8,836	8,743	29.4	29.0	484	498
Wife	1,930	1,814	6.4	6.0	227	237
Two or more earners	18,725	18,966	62.2	62.9	775	813
Husband and wife only	13,114	13,596	43.6	45.1	736	776
Families maintained by women	4,836	4,725	100.0	100.0	326	349
One earner	3,276	3,176	67.7	67.2	271	269
Two or more earners	1,560	1,550	32.3	32.8	516	574
Families maintained by men	1,568	1,671	100.0	100.0	474	505
One earner	966	930	61.6	55.7	363	393
Two or more earners	603	741	38.4	44.3	681	719
Black						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	4,922	4,828	100.0	100.0	411	432
One earner	2,500	2,355	50.8	48.8	251	258
Two or more earners	2,423	2,472	49.2	51.2	626	682
Married-couple families	2,719	2,734	100.0	100.0	536	583
One earner	906	859	33.3	31.4	295	292
Husband	596	565	21.9	20.6	338	324
Wife	251	230	9.2	8.4	191	202
Two or more earners	1,813	1,875	66.7	68.6	673	736
Husband and wife only	1,280	1,360	47.1	49.8	637	693
Families maintained by women	1,802	1,740	100.0	100.0	273	278
One earner	1,352	1,276	75.0	73.4	218	228
Two or more earners	450	463	25.0	26.6	477	488
Families maintained by men	401	354	100.0	100.0	428	410
One earner	242	220	60.3	62.2	269	315
Two or more earners	159	134	39.7	37.8	575	692

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	II 1987	II 1988	II 1987	II 1988	II 1987	II 1988
Hispanic origin						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	3,192	3,351	100.0	100.0	$425	$447
One earner	1,484	1,530	46.5	45.7	282	289
Two or more earners	1,708	1,821	53.5	54.3	580	624
Married-couple families	2,424	2,571	100.0	100.0	473	489
One earner	983	1,081	40.6	42.0	295	304
Husband	806	903	33.3	35.1	311	311
Wife	106	127	4.4	5.0	206	259
Two or more earners	1,440	1,490	59.4	58.0	605	662
Husband and wife only	973	953	40.1	37.1	579	635
Families maintained by women	568	479	100.0	100.0	295	291
One earner	391	326	68.9	68.2	249	221
Two or more earners	177	152	31.1	31.8	462	487
Families maintained by men	201	301	100.0	100.0	391	392
One earner	109	123	54.5	40.8	304	319
Two or more earners	91	178	45.5	59.2	([2])	481

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 7. Families with unemployed members and wage and salary earners by type of family and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	II 1987	II 1988	II 1987	II 1988	II 1987	II 1988
Families with unemployment and wage and salary earners[1]	3,498	3,129	—	—	$395	$403
Married-couple families	2,663	2,405	100.0	100.0	436	455
Husband unemployed	861	680	32.3	28.3	258	252
Wife only earner	648	520	24.3	21.6	232	232
Wife and other earner(s)	145	93	5.5	3.9	505	([2])
Other earners only	68	67	2.5	2.8	([2])	([2])
Wife unemployed	771	708	28.9	29.4	419	398
Husband only earner	640	592	24.1	24.6	389	356
Husband and other earner(s)	117	102	4.4	4.3	692	709
Other earners only	14	13	.5	.6	([2])	([2])
Other members unemployed	1,032	1,017	38.7	42.3	684	696
Husband or wife earners	415	406	15.6	16.9	518	598
Husband and wife earners	590	577	22.2	24.0	813	777
Other combinations of earners	27	34	1.0	1.4	([2])	([2])
Families maintained by women	623	567	100.0	100.0	279	283
Householder unemployed	78	78	12.5	13.7	([2])	([2])
Other member(s) unemployed	545	489	87.5	86.3	286	310
Families maintained by men	212	158	100.0	100.0	357	321
Householder unemployed	55	33	26.1	21.0	([2])	([2])
Other member(s) unemployed	157	125	73.9	79.0	475	355

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

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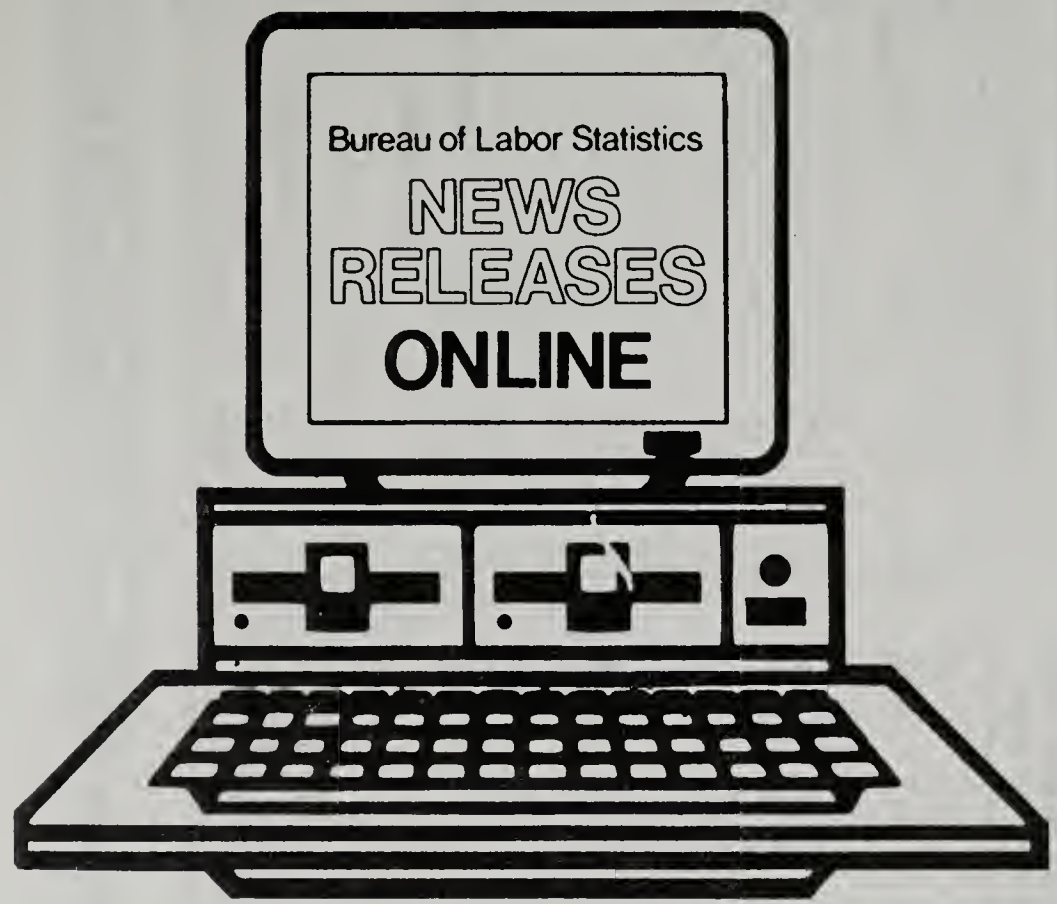

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EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES: FIRST QUARTER 1988

The number of families with a full-time worker increased by about 750,000 over the year ended in the first quarter of 1988. Families with at least one full-time worker now account for three-fourths of the nation's 64.2 million families, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Median family earnings also continued to rise and, at $580 a week in the first quarter of 1988, were 4 percent higher than a year earlier. Other first-quarter 1988 highlights were:

---About 52 million families (81 percent of all families) had at least one employed member and 93 percent of these families had no one unemployed. White families with employed members continued to be less likely to contain an unemployed person than either black or Hispanic families. (See tables A and 1.)

---The number of families with unemployed members fell to 5.5 million (8.5 percent of all families) in the first quarter of 1988. This was 800,000, or 12 percent, below the level of a year earlier. About 40 percent of the over-the-year decline was among married-couple families where the husband had been jobless. (See tables A and 3.)

---There were 300,000 more employed mothers in the first quarter of 1988 than a year earlier. The increase was about equally divided between mothers of preschool- and school-age children and resulted in a slightly lower level of unemployment among mothers. Overall, the number of families with an unemployed parent declined by 12 percent over the year. (See tables A and 4.)

---The median wage and salary earnings of married-couple families were $648 in the first quarter. Earnings were was $480 for families where the husband was the sole earner and more than $1,000 where the wife and other family members were also earners. Median weekly earnings of families maintained by women ($323) remained about half those of married-couple families. (See table 6.)

75 Years of Working for America's Future

---At $597, median weekly earnings for all white families were about 40 percent greater than the medians for all black ($421) or all Hispanic ($432) families. There were much smaller earnings differences, however, among families with two or more earners. For example, at $774 a week, the median for white families with two or more earners was just 17 percent greater than that for black families with two or more earners and 28 percent greater than the median for this group of Hispanic families. (See table 6.)

Table A. Summary labor force characteristics of families, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	I 1987	I 1988	Change
Total families	63,778	64,246	468
With employed member(s)	51,259	51,950	691
Percent of total families	80.4	80.9	.5
With member(s) employed full time	47,130	47,883	753
Percent of total families	73.9	74.5	.6
With unemployed member(s)	6,230	5,452	-778
Percent with employed member(s)	69.1	71.3	2.2
Percent of total families	9.8	8.5	-1.3
With unemployed member(s), none employed	1,926	1,567	-359
Percent of total families	3.0	2.4	-.6
With no members in labor force	10,593	10,729	136
Percent with no members under 60 years old	61.2	60.1	-1.1
Percent of total families	16.6	16.7	.1
With children under 18 years old	31,647	31,531	-116
Percent with employed parent(s)	87.7	88.1	.4
Percent with employed mother	58.3	59.5	1.2
Percent of total families	49.6	49.1	-.5
With children under 6 years old	14,401	14,445	44
Percent with employed parent(s)	86.5	86.9	.4
Percent with employed mother	50.9	51.8	.9
Percent of total families	22.6	22.5	-.1

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The estimates in this release were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), which provides basic information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment. The survey is conducted monthly for the Bureau of Labor Statistics by the Bureau of the Census from a scientifically selected national sample of households, with coverage in all 50 States and the District of Columbia. The size of the monthly sample is about 59,500 households. The earnings data are collected from one-quarter of the CPS monthly sample and are limited to wages and salaries. The data, therefore, exclude self-employment income.

Reliability

In any sample survey, variations in the data can occur by chance because a sample, rather than the whole of the population, is surveyed. The standard error is a measure of such potential variation. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the survey differs from a figure that would be obtained from a complete census by less than one standard error. The chances are about 90 out of 100 that such a difference would be less than 1.6 standard errors. All statements of comparisons in the text of this release are significant at 1.6 or more standard errors.

Standard errors for numbers and proportions of families can be approximated using tables found in the Household Data section of the Explanatory Notes in Employment and Earnings. Representative standard errors for median family earnings are available from BLS upon request.

Definitions

The principal definitions used in this release are described briefly below.

Family. A family is a group of two or more persons residing together who are related by blood, marriage, or adoption. The count of families is for "primary" families only, that is, the householder and all other persons related to and residing with the householder. Not included are unrelated subfamilies. Families are classified either as married-couple families or families maintained by women or men without spouses.

Householder. A householder is the person in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented.

Children. Children are defined as "own" children, that is, never-married sons, daughters, step-children, and adopted children. Excluded are other related children, such as nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and cousins, and unrelated children.

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Employed. Employed persons are those who during the survey week: (a) Did any work at all as paid civilians; (b) worked in their own business or profession or on their own farms; or (c) worked 15 hours or more as an unpaid worker in a family operated enterprise. Also included are those who were temporarily absent from their jobs because of illness, vacation, bad weather, labor-management disputes, or personal reasons.

Full-time workers. Persons who usually work 35 hours or more per week on their sole or principal job. Persons who work less than 35 hours are part-time workers.

Unemployed. The unemployed are persons who had no employment during the survey week were available for work at that time and made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the prior 4 weeks. Persons laid off from their former jobs and awainting recall and those expecting to report to a job within 30 days need not be looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

Civilian labor force. The civilian labor force is the sum of the employed and the unemployed.

Wage and salary workers. Workers who receive wages, salaries, commissions, tips, payment in kind, or piece rates. Persons who report themselves as self-employed, including those whose businesses are incorporated, are excluded from coverage in these earnings data.

Usual weekly earnings. Data on usual weekly earnings are provided from responses to the question, "How much does...USUALLY earn per week at this job before deductions? Include any overtime pay, commissions, or tips usually received." The response is for the worker's sole or principal job, and the term "usual" is as perceived by the respondent. If the respondent asks for a definition of "usual," interviewers are instructed to define the term as more than half the weeks worked during the past 4 or 5 months.

Median weekly earnings. The median of weekly earnings is the value at which 50 percent of the earnings distribution lies above and 50 percent lies below. The estimating procedure places each reported earnings value into intervals which are centered around multiples of $50. The actual value is calculated through linear interpolation of the interval in which the median lies.

Over-the-year changes in the medians for component groups may not necessarily be consistent with the changes estimated for the overall median and therefore are not presented in this release. Circumstances under which this can occur include: (1) Even though medians of component groups may rise, if the lower-earnings group accounts for a sufficiently increased share of the total, the overall median can rise less than for any of the groups; and (2) survey observations tend to be clustered at rounded values, such as $250, $300, and $400, and an estimated median lying in a $50-wide centered interval containing such a cluster changes more slowly than one in non-clustered intervals. For example, if the medians for component groups are not in a cluster but the overall group median is, then the increase in the overall median will be less than for the components.

Table 1. Families by employment status of members, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	I 1987	I 1988	I 1987	I 1988
TOTAL				
Total families	63,778	64,246	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	10,593	10,729	16.6	16.7
With at least one member in the labor force	53,184	53,517	83.4	83.3
No member employed	1,926	1,567	3.0	2.4
Some member employed	51,259	51,950	80.4	80.9
No one unemployed	46,955	48,065	73.6	74.8
One or more employed full time	43,476	44,535	68.2	69.3
Some member unemployed	4,304	3,885	6.7	6.0
One or more employed full time	3,654	3,348	5.7	5.2
White				
Total families	55,043	55,332	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	8,924	9,051	16.2	16.4
With at least one member in the labor force	46,119	46,281	83.8	83.6
No member employed	1,369	1,053	2.5	1.9
Some member employed	44,750	45,228	81.3	81.7
No one unemployed	41,303	42,141	75.0	76.2
One or more employed full time	38,386	39,179	69.7	70.8
Some member unemployed	3,447	3,087	6.3	5.6
One or more employed full time	2,934	2,687	5.3	4.9
Black				
Total families	7,028	7,101	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	1,451	1,435	20.6	20.2
With at least one member in the labor force	5,577	5,665	79.4	79.8
No member employed	513	463	7.3	6.5
Some member employed	5,063	5,202	72.0	73.3
No one unemployed	4,346	4,535	61.8	63.9
One or more employed full time	3,879	4,056	55.2	57.1
Some member unemployed	717	667	10.2	9.4
One or more employed full time	598	547	8.5	7.7
Hispanic origin				
Total families	4,369	4,483	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	604	681	13.8	15.2
With at least one member in the labor force	3,764	3,801	86.2	84.8
No member employed	219	177	5.0	3.9
Some member employed	3,546	3,624	81.2	80.8
No one unemployed	3,115	3,244	71.3	72.4
One or more employed full time	2,837	2,986	64.9	66.6
Some member unemployed	431	380	9.9	8.5
One or more employed full time	368	313	8.4	7.0

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 2. Families by employment status of members and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	1987	1988	1987	1988
Married-couple families	50,542	50,707	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	7,711	7,655	15.3	15.1
With at least one member in the labor force	42,830	43,052	84.7	84.9
No member employed	986	744	2.0	1.5
Some member employed	41,844	42,308	82.8	83.4
Husband only	11,649	11,523	23.0	22.7
Wife only	2,570	2,551	5.1	5.0
Husband and wife	23,559	24,336	46.6	48.0
Husband and wife only	18,801	19,521	37.2	38.5
Other combinations	4,066	3,898	8.0	7.7
Families maintained by women	10,553	10,714	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	2,589	2,692	24.5	25.1
With at least one member in the labor force	7,963	8,023	75.5	74.9
No member employed	778	685	7.4	6.4
Some member employed	7,185	7,338	68.1	68.5
Householder employed	5,883	6,045	55.7	56.4
Householder only	3,798	3,813	36.0	35.6
Householder and other(s)	2,085	2,232	19.8	20.8
Other combinations	1,302	1,293	12.3	12.1
Families maintained by men	2,683	2,824	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	292	382	10.9	13.5
With at least one member in the labor force	2,391	2,442	89.1	86.5
No member employed	162	138	6.0	4.9
Some member employed	2,229	2,304	83.1	81.6
Householder employed	1,900	1,958	70.8	69.3
Householder only	1,051	1,056	39.2	37.4
Householder and other(s)	849	902	31.6	31.9
Other combinations	329	346	12.3	12.3

Table 3. Families with unemployed members by type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	I 1987	I 1988	I 1987	I 1988
Families with unemployment	6,230	5,452	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	4,304	3,885	69.1	71.3
With no members employed	1,926	1,567	30.9	28.7
Married-couple families	4,399	3,802	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	3,413	3,058	77.6	80.4
With no members employed	986	744	22.4	19.6
With husband unemployed	1,842	1,533	41.9	40.3
Wife employed	987	884	22.4	23.3
Other(s) employed	113	74	2.6	1.9
No one employed	742	575	16.9	15.1
With wife unemployed	1,099	1,024	25.0	26.9
Husband employed	996	933	22.6	24.5
Other(s) employed	18	20	.4	.5
No one employed	85	71	1.9	1.9
With other member(s) unemployed	1,458	1,245	33.1	32.7
Families maintained by women	1,457	1,307	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	679	622	46.6	47.6
With no members employed	778	685	53.4	52.4
With householder unemployed	644	559	44.2	42.8
Other(s) employed	95	103	6.5	7.9
No one employed	549	456	37.7	34.9
With other member(s) unemployed	813	748	55.8	57.2
Families maintained by men	374	343	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	212	204	56.7	59.5
With no members employed	162	138	43.3	40.2
With householder unemployed	180	167	48.1	48.7
Other(s) employed	65	58	17.4	16.9
No one employed	115	109	30.7	31.8
With other member(s) unemployed	194	176	51.9	51.3

Table 4. Families with children under 18 years old by the employment status of parent(s) and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(In thousands)

Characteristic	1987			1988		
	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old
Total families	31,647	17,246	14,401	31,531	17,086	14,445
Married-couple families	24,145	12,554	11,592	23,959	12,319	11,640
With employed parent(s)	23,006	11,972	11,034	22,942	11,806	11,136
Neither unemployed	21,763	11,294	10,469	21,793	11,218	10,575
Father employed	7,768	3,239	4,529	7,488	3,037	4,452
Mother employed	479	311	168	494	329	165
Both employed	13,516	7,744	5,772	13,811	7,852	5,958
One unemployed	1,243	678	565	1,149	588	561
Father unemployed	577	333	244	512	294	218
Mother unemployed	666	345	321	637	294	343
With no employed parent	1,139	581	558	1,017	512	505
Father unemployed	422	151	271	345	109	236
Mother unemployed	44	31	13	42	27	15
Both unemployed	129	63	66	79	30	49
Neither in labor force	544	336	208	551	346	205
Families maintained by women	6,458	3,988	2,470	6,467	4,025	2,442
Mother employed	3,891	2,741	1,151	3,944	2,807	1,137
Mother not employed	2,567	1,247	1,320	2,523	1,218	1,306
Unemployed	543	280	263	461	265	196
Not in labor force	2,024	967	1,057	2,062	953	1,110
Families maintained by men	1,043	704	339	1,104	742	363
Father employed	862	589	272	881	596	285
Father not employed	181	115	67	223	145	77
Unemployed	89	49	41	91	51	39
Not in labor force	92	66	26	132	94	38
Total families with unemployed parents	2,470	1,252	1,219	2,167	1,070	1,096

Table 5. Employment status of persons in families by family relationship, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	I 1987					I 1988				
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed			Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed		
			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)
TOTAL										
In families	147,595	65.3	6,942	7.2	67.1	148,076	65.6	5,990	6.2	69.3
In married-couple families	122,525	65.9	4,892	6.1	75.2	122,324	66.3	4,158	5.1	77.7
Husbands	50,542	78.3	1,842	4.7	59.7	50,707	78.3	1,533	3.9	62.5
Wives	50,542	55.5	1,292	4.6	80.5	50,707	56.5	1,152	4.0	83.9
Other family member(s)	21,441	61.1	1,758	13.4	87.5	20,910	61.2	1,473	11.5	88.8
In families maintained by women	19,741	60.2	1,652	13.9	46.2	20,076	60.2	1,468	12.1	48.1
Householder	10,553	61.8	644	9.9	14.7	10,714	61.6	559	8.5	18.4
Other family member(s)	9,188	58.4	1,008	18.8	66.3	9,362	58.6	909	16.6	66.4
In families maintained by men	5,331	70.2	398	10.6	54.5	5,675	68.2	363	9.4	58.1
Householder	2,683	77.5	180	8.7	36.2	2,824	75.2	167	7.9	35.1
Other family member(s)	2,648	62.7	218	13.1	69.5	2,851	61.2	196	11.3	77.6
White										
In families	127,216	65.7	5,275	6.3	69.4	127,339	66.0	4,454	5.3	72.3
In married-couple families	109,606	65.8	4,097	5.7	74.5	109,455	66.2	3,435	4.7	78.0
Husbands	45,656	78.3	1,588	4.4	58.6	45,780	78.3	1,291	3.6	62.6
Wives	45,639	54.6	1,075	4.3	80.4	45,724	55.6	950	3.7	85.0
Other family member(s)	18,311	62.5	1,434	12.5	87.7	17,951	62.4	1,194	10.7	89.3
In families maintained by women	13,332	62.7	877	10.5	50.4	13,415	63.0	763	9.0	51.6
Householder	7,238	63.5	343	7.5	18.4	7,303	63.0	287	6.2	23.3
Other family member(s)	6,094	61.7	534	14.2	71.1	6,112	62.9	476	12.4	68.8
In families maintained by men	4,278	71.2	303	9.9	56.1	4,469	69.3	255	8.2	57.3
Householder	2,156	79.1	138	8.1	36.2	2,239	76.5	119	7.0	33.7
Other family member(s)	2,122	63.3	165	12.3	72.7	2,230	62.1	136	9.8	77.6
Black										
In families	15,946	62.1	1,463	14.8	58.0	15,972	62.9	1,335	13.3	58.6
In married-couple families	9,214	66.6	640	10.4	78.4	8,913	68.5	562	9.2	76.9
Husbands	3,551	76.3	189	7.0	65.1	3,498	77.1	178	6.6	62.5
Wives	3,457	64.4	180	8.1	81.1	3,402	66.7	154	6.8	76.5
Other family member(s)	2,206	54.3	271	22.6	85.9	2,013	56.3	230	20.3	87.7
In families maintained by women	5,858	54.8	736	22.9	41.2	6,122	54.6	679	20.3	43.9
Householder	3,049	58.2	288	16.2	10.3	3,145	58.5	262	14.2	13.1
Other family member(s)	2,809	51.0	448	31.2	61.3	2,977	50.4	417	27.8	63.3
In families maintained by men	874	64.5	87	15.4	49.4	937	63.9	93	15.5	57.0
Householder	439	69.5	38	12.4	(1)	468	69.1	41	12.8	(1)
Other family member(s)	435	59.7	49	19.0	(1)	469	58.6	52	18.9	(1)
Hispanic origin										
In families	10,662	63.9	748	11.0	64.3	10,777	64.7	628	9.0	66.6
In married-couple families	8,092	65.7	535	10.1	70.3	8,186	66.5	458	8.4	72.1
Husbands	3,065	86.1	217	8.2	53.4	3,108	85.8	185	7.0	53.4
Wives	3,156	50.6	127	7.9	75.3	3,254	53.0	108	6.3	81.3
Other family member(s)	1,871	57.8	191	17.7	86.1	1,824	57.7	165	15.6	86.9
In families maintained by women	1,927	52.5	146	14.4	47.3	1,966	55.1	138	12.7	54.3
Householder	1,007	49.5	54	10.8	(1)	1,068	51.5	48	8.7	(1)
Other family member(s)	920	55.8	92	17.9	63.6	898	59.5	90	16.8	66.3
In families maintained by men	643	75.3	68	14.0	51.5	625	71.0	32	7.2	(1)
Householder	290	84.6	33	13.4	(1)	304	82.1	19	7.6	(1)
Other family member(s)	353	67.2	35	14.6	(1)	321	60.4	13	6.8	(1)

[1] Data not shown where base is less than 60,000.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	I 1987	I 1988	I 1987	I 1988	I 1987	I 1988
TOTAL						
Families with wage or salary earners	42,209	42,930	100.0	100.0	$557	$580
One earner	18,636	18,722	44.2	43.6	343	361
Two or more earners	23,574	24,208	55.8	56.4	735	763
Married-couple families	33,527	33,953	100.0	100.0	620	648
One earner	12,825	12,695	38.3	37.4	395	409
Husband	9,739	9,627	29.0	28.4	469	480
Wife	2,378	2,364	7.1	7.0	219	236
Other family member	707	704	2.1	2.1	207	211
Two or more earners	20,702	21,259	61.7	62.6	763	790
Husband and wife only	14,727	15,370	43.9	45.3	737	762
Husband, wife, and other family member(s)	3,349	3,340	10.0	9.8	999	1040
Husband and other family member(s)	1,889	1,793	5.6	5.3	725	753
Wife and other family member(s)	592	599	1.8	1.8	453	470
Other family members only	146	158	.4	.5	515	474
Families maintained by women	6,857	7,023	100.0	100.0	309	323
One earner	4,686	4,832	68.3	68.8	248	260
Householder	3,726	3,784	54.3	53.9	257	267
Other family member	960	1,048	14.0	14.9	215	233
Two or more earners	2,170	2,190	31.7	31.2	489	534
Families maintained by men	1,826	1,954	100.0	100.0	461	468
One earner	1,124	1,195	61.6	61.2	353	375
Householder	870	921	47.6	47.1	386	425
Other family member	255	274	14.0	14.0	251	218
Two or more earners	701	759	38.4	38.8	654	654
White						
Families with wage or salary earners	36,267	36,748	100.0	100.0	578	597
One earner	15,749	15,766	43.4	42.9	367	383
Two or more earners	20,518	20,982	56.6	57.1	750	774
Married-couple families	29,858	30,211	100.0	100.0	630	655
One earner	11,553	11,450	38.7	37.9	406	420
Husband	8,906	8,829	29.8	29.2	480	487
Wife	2,034	2,000	6.8	6.6	220	244
Two or more earners	18,304	18,761	61.3	62.1	774	797
Husband and wife only	13,043	13,539	43.7	44.8	747	768
Families maintained by women	4,905	5,015	100.0	100.0	321	337
One earner	3,281	3,398	66.9	67.8	256	272
Two or more earners	1,625	1,617	33.1	32.2	490	543
Families maintained by men	1,504	1,523	100.0	100.0	483	483
One earner	915	919	60.9	60.3	362	398
Two or more earners	589	604	39.1	39.7	678	660
Black						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	4,715	4,884	100.0	100.0	399	421
One earner	2,379	2,424	50.4	49.6	247	250
Two or more earners	2,337	2,460	49.6	50.4	605	659
Married-couple families	2,687	2,701	100.0	100.0	503	575
One earner	910	867	33.9	32.1	270	268
Husband	550	525	20.5	19.4	319	318
Wife	285	280	10.6	10.4	202	196
Two or more earners	1,777	1,834	66.1	67.9	647	701
Husband and wife only	1,286	1,355	47.9	50.2	623	692
Families maintained by women	1,754	1,837	100.0	100.0	273	289
One earner	1,285	1,333	73.3	72.5	233	228
Two or more earners	469	505	26.7	27.5	472	502
Families maintained by men	273	346	100.0	100.0	380	393
One earner	183	224	66.9	64.9	304	315
Two or more earners	90	121	33.1	35.1	([2])	631

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	I 1987	I 1988	I 1987	I 1988	I 1987	I 1988
Hispanic origin						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	3,124	3,308	100.0	100.0	$412	$432
One earner	1,522	1,565	48.7	47.3	260	284
Two or more earners	1,602	1,743	51.3	52.7	581	604
Married-couple families	2,355	2,434	100.0	100.0	449	477
One earner	1,060	1,022	45.0	42.0	271	301
Husband	883	834	37.5	34.3	295	320
Wife	110	123	4.7	5.0	199	218
Two or more earners	1,295	1,412	55.0	58.0	609	639
Husband and wife only	778	943	33.0	38.7	581	597
Families maintained by women	526	658	100.0	100.0	270	297
One earner	338	424	64.4	64.5	213	205
Two or more earners	187	234	35.6	35.5	447	501
Families maintained by men	243	216	100.0	100.0	415	438
One earner	124	118	51.0	54.6	335	372
Two or more earners	119	98	49.0	45.4	503	([2])

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 7. Families with unemployed members and wage and salary earners by type of family and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	I 1987	I 1988	I 1987	I 1988	I 1987	I 1988
Families with unemployment and wage and salary earners[1]	3,743	3,388	—	—	$375	$390
Married-couple families	2,926	2,670	100.0	100.0	400	411
Husband unemployed	1,002	916	34.2	34.3	228	257
Wife only earner	744	721	25.4	27.0	211	234
Wife and other earner(s)	155	130	5.3	4.9	386	440
Other earners only	103	66	3.5	2.5	178	([2])
Wife unemployed	905	884	30.9	33.1	395	420
Husband only earner	773	747	26.4	28.0	384	403
Husband and other earner(s)	113	112	3.8	4.2	590	681
Other earners only	20	25	.7	.9	([2])	([2])
Other members unemployed	1,019	869	34.8	32.6	645	662
Husband or wife earners	397	338	13.6	12.7	543	495
Husband and wife earners	590	491	20.2	18.4	745	820
Other combinations of earners	32	40	1.1	1.5	([2])	([2])
Families maintained by women	617	520	100.0	100.0	272	306
Householder unemployed	73	81	11.8	15.5	([2])	([2])
Other member(s) unemployed	545	440	88.2	84.5	286	329
Families maintained by men	199	197	100.0	100.0	345	424
Householder unemployed	70	59	35.3	29.7	([2])	([2])
Other member(s) unemployed	129	139	64.7	70.3	374	521

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

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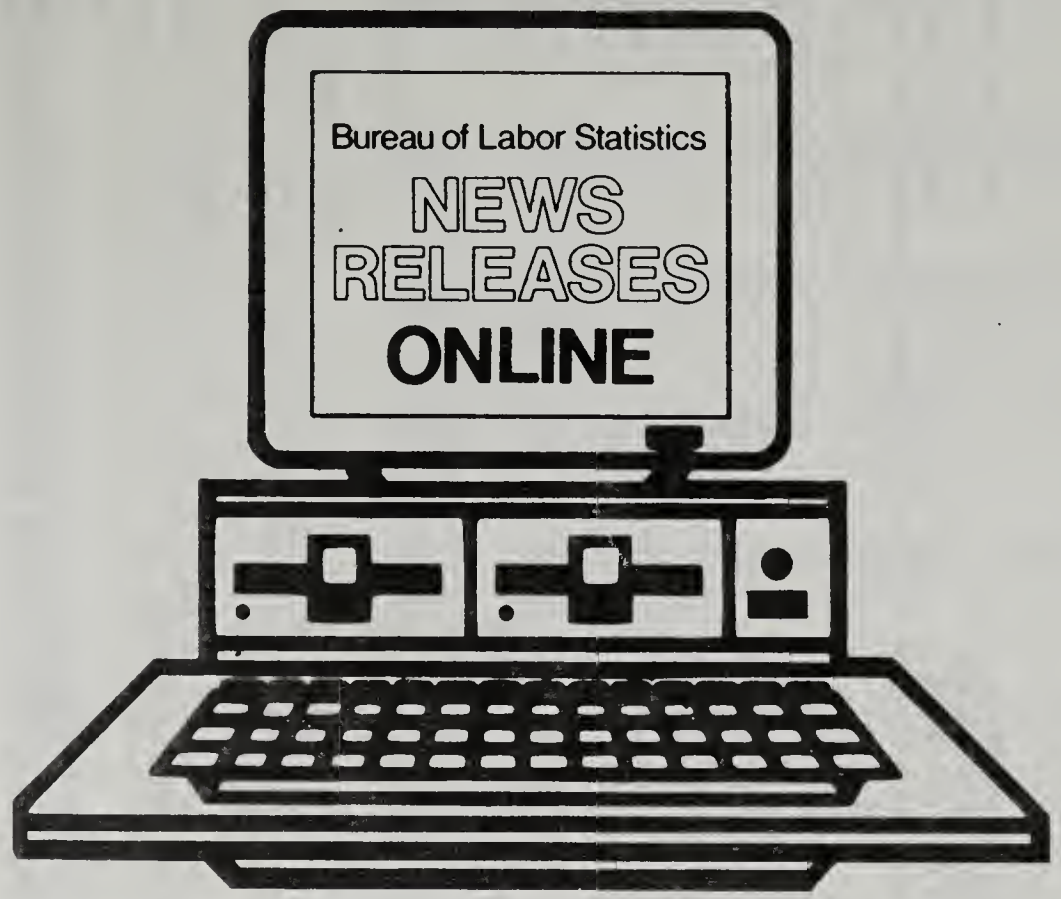

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EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES: FOURTH QUARTER 1987

Reflecting the strong growth in employment during 1987, the number of families with employed members increased by 800,000 over the year ended in the fourth quarter, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Over this same period, the median wage and salary earnings of families advanced by 4.9 percent to reach $579 a week. Other fourth quarter 1987 highlights follow.

--The number of families with one or more full-time workers increased sharply to nearly 48.4 million. Such families comprise about three-fourths of all U.S. families. (See tables A and 1.)

--About 8 percent of all families had an unemployed member. At just under 5 million, the number of these families was about 800,000 smaller than a year earlier. In about 70 percent of such families, there also were one or more employed members. (See tables A and 3.)

--The number of employed mothers continued to increase moderately over the year. In the fourth quarter, the mother was employed in 60 percent of the families with children under 18 years old. The proportion of families with employed mothers ranged from 53 percent for those with preschoolers to 67 percent for those where the youngest child was school age. (See tables A and 4.)

--Median wage and salary earnings for married-couple families reached $647 a week in the fourth quarter, 5 percent more than a year earlier. The median for families with two or more earners (usually the husband and the wife) was $782 a week, 60 percent higher than that for families where the husband was the sole earner. Earnings of families maintained by women continued to be about half those of married-couple families. (See table 6.)

--Unemployment can have a profound impact on family earnings, but its severity depends both on which family member is jobless and which one is still employed. For instance, median weekly earnings of families where the husband was unemployed and the wife the only worker was $237. In contrast, the median for families where the unemployed member was a teenage son or daughter and both husband and wife were earners was $828 a week. (See table 7.)

75 Years of Working for America's Future

Annual averages for 1987

In addition to the data for the fourth quarter of 1987, this release presents three tables with 1986 and 1987 annual averages on family employment patterns and weekly earnings. (See tables 8 through 10.)

Table A. Summary labor force characteristics of families, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	IV 1986	IV 1987	Change
Total families	63,518	64,178	660
With employed member(s)	51,476	52,284	808
Percent of total families	81.0	81.5	.5
With member(s) employed full time	47,420	48,354	934
Percent of total families	74.7	75.3	.6
With unemployed member(s)	5,780	4,970	-810
Percent with employed member(s)	70.0	71.0	1.0
Percent of total families	9.1	7.7	-1.4
With unemployed member(s), none employed	1,735	1,441	-294
Percent of total families	2.7	2.2	-.5
With no members in labor force	10,307	10,453	146
Percent with no members under 60 years old	61.7	61.6	-.1
Percent of total families	16.2	16.3	.1
With children under 18 years old	31,608	31,504	-104
Percent with employed parent(s)	88.5	88.8	.3
Percent with employed mother	59.3	60.5	1.2
Percent of total families	49.8	49.1	-.7
With children under 6 years old	14,437	14,416	-21
Percent with employed parent(s)	86.9	87.9	1.0
Percent with employed mother	51.7	52.9	1.2
Percent of total families	22.7	22.5	-.2

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The estimates in this release were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), which provides basic information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment. The survey is conducted monthly for the Bureau of Labor Statistics by the Bureau of the Census from a scientifically selected national sample of households, with coverage in all 50 States and the District of Columbia. The size of the monthly sample is about 59,500 households. The earnings data are collected from one-quarter of the CPS monthly sample and are limited to wages and salaries. The data, therefore, exclude self-employment income.

Reliability

In any sample survey, variations in the data can occur by chance because a sample, rather than the whole of the population, is surveyed. The standard error is a measure of such potential variation. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the survey differs from a figure that would be obtained from a complete census by less than one standard error. The chances are about 90 out of 100 that such a difference would be less than 1.6 standard errors. All statements of comparisons in the text of this release are significant at 1.6 or more standard errors.

Standard errors for numbers and proportions of families can be approximated using tables found in the Household Data section of the Explanatory Notes in Employment and Earnings. Representative standard errors for median family earnings are available from BLS upon request.

Definitions

The principal definitions used in this release are described briefly below.

Family. A family is a group of two or more persons residing together who are related by blood, marriage, or adoption. The count of families is for "primary" families only, that is, the householder and all other persons related to and residing with the householder. Not included are unrelated subfamilies. Families are classified either as married-couple families or families maintained by women or men without spouses.

Householder. A householder is the person in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented.

Children. Children are defined as "own" children, that is, never-married sons, daughters, step-children, and adopted children. Excluded are other related children, such as nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and cousins, and unrelated children.

Employed. Employed persons are those who during the survey week: (a) Did any work at all as paid civilians; (b) worked in their own business or profession or on their own farms; or (c) worked 15 hours or more as an unpaid worker in a family operated enterprise. Also included are those who were temporarily absent from their jobs because of illness, vacation, bad weather, labor-management disputes, or personal reasons.

Full-time workers. Persons who usually work 35 hours or more per week on their sole or principal job. Persons who work less than 35 hours are part-time workers.

Unemployed. The unemployed are persons who had no employment during the survey week were available for work at that time and made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the prior 4 weeks. Persons laid off from their former jobs and awainting recall and those expecting to report to a job within 30 days need not be looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

Civilian labor force. The civilian labor force is the sum of the employed and the unemployed.

Wage and salary workers. Workers who receive wages, salaries, commissions, tips, payment in kind, or piece rates. Persons who report themselves as self-employed, including those whose businesses are incorporated, are excluded from coverage in these earnings data.

Usual weekly earnings. Data on usual weekly earnings are provided from responses to the question, "How much does...USUALLY earn per week at this job before deductions? Include any overtime pay, commissions, or tips usually received." The response is for the worker's sole or principal job, and the term "usual" is as perceived by the respondent. If the respondent asks for a definition of "usual," interviewers are instructed to define the term as more than half the weeks worked during the past 4 or 5 months.

Median weekly earnings. The median of weekly earnings is the value at which 50 percent of the earnings distribution lies above and 50 percent lies below. The estimating procedure places each reported earnings value into intervals which are centered around multiples of $50. The actual value is calculated through linear interpolation of the interval in which the median lies.

Over-the-year changes in the medians for component groups may not necessarily be consistent with the changes estimated for the overall median and therefore are not presented in this release. Circumstances under which this can occur include: (1) Even though medians of component groups may rise, if the lower-earnings group accounts for a sufficiently increased share of the total, the overall median can rise less than for any of the groups; and (2) survey observations tend to be clustered at rounded values, such as $250, $300, and $400, and an estimated median lying in a $50-wide centered interval containing such a cluster changes more slowly than one in non-clustered intervals. For example, if the medians for component groups are not in a cluster but the overall group median is, then the increase in the overall median will be less than for the components.

Table 1. Families by employment status of members, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	IV 1986	IV 1987	IV 1986	IV 1987
TOTAL				
Total families	63,518	64,178	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	10,307	10,453	16.2	16.3
With at least one member in the labor force	53,211	53,725	83.8	83.7
No member employed	1,735	1,441	2.7	2.2
Some member employed	51,476	52,284	81.0	81.5
No one unemployed	47,431	48,755	74.7	76.0
One or more employed full time	43,949	45,255	69.2	70.5
Some member unemployed	4,045	3,529	6.4	5.5
One or more employed full time	3,471	3,099	5.5	4.8
White				
Total families	54,832	55,299	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	8,762	8,924	16.0	16.1
With at least one member in the labor force	46,070	46,374	84.0	83.9
No member employed	1,196	960	2.2	1.7
Some member employed	44,873	45,415	81.8	82.1
No one unemployed	41,664	42,652	76.0	77.1
One or more employed full time	38,781	39,728	70.7	71.8
Some member unemployed	3,209	2,763	5.9	5.0
One or more employed full time	2,754	2,431	5.0	4.4
Black				
Total families	6,975	7,082	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	1,352	1,311	19.4	18.5
With at least one member in the labor force	5,624	5,770	80.6	81.5
No member employed	496	441	7.1	6.2
Some member employed	5,127	5,330	73.5	75.3
No one unemployed	4,417	4,693	63.3	66.3
One or more employed full time	3,918	4,209	56.2	59.4
Some member unemployed	710	637	10.2	9.0
One or more employed full time	606	554	8.7	7.8
Hispanic origin				
Total families	4,250	4,471	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	626	661	14.7	14.8
With at least one member in the labor force	3,624	3,810	85.3	85.2
No member employed	217	161	5.1	3.6
Some member employed	3,407	3,649	80.2	81.6
No one unemployed	3,000	3,276	70.6	73.3
One or more employed full time	2,751	3,014	64.7	67.4
Some member unemployed	407	373	9.6	8.3
One or more employed full time	338	323	8.0	7.2

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 2. Families by employment status of members and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	IV 1986	IV 1987	IV 1986	IV 1987
Married-couple families	50,625	50,833	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	7,557	7,580	14.9	14.9
With at least one member in the labor force	43,068	43,253	85.1	85.1
No member employed	830	662	1.6	1.3
Some member employed	42,237	42,591	83.4	83.8
Husband only	11,695	11,412	23.1	22.4
Wife only	2,482	2,395	4.9	4.7
Husband and wife	23,973	24,802	47.4	48.8
Husband and wife only	18,999	19,814	37.5	39.0
Other combinations	4,087	3,982	8.1	7.8
Families maintained by women	10,450	10,703	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	2,464	2,521	23.6	23.6
With at least one member in the labor force	7,986	8,182	76.4	76.4
No member employed	769	672	7.4	6.3
Some member employed	7,217	7,510	69.1	70.2
Householder employed	5,896	6,139	56.4	57.4
Householder only	3,759	3,837	36.0	35.8
Householder and other(s)	2,137	2,302	20.4	21.5
Other combinations	1,321	1,371	12.6	12.8
Families maintained by men	2,444	2,642	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	286	351	11.7	13.3
With at least one member in the labor force	2,158	2,291	88.3	86.7
No member employed	136	108	5.6	4.1
Some member employed	2,022	2,183	82.7	82.6
Householder employed	1,730	1,857	70.8	70.3
Householder only	930	980	38.1	37.1
Householder and other(s)	800	877	32.7	33.2
Other combinations	292	326	11.9	12.3

Table 3. Families with unemployed members by type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	IV 1986	IV 1987	IV 1986	IV 1987
Families with unemployment	5,780	4,970	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	4,045	3,529	70.0	71.0
With no members employed	1,735	1,441	30.0	29.0
Married-couple families	4,014	3,449	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	3,184	2,787	79.3	80.8
With no members employed	830	662	20.7	19.2
With husband unemployed	1,601	1,299	39.9	37.7
Wife employed	905	732	22.5	21.2
Other(s) employed	78	67	1.9	1.9
No one employed	618	500	15.4	14.5
With wife unemployed	1,098	989	27.4	28.7
Husband employed	1,005	905	25.0	26.2
Other(s) employed	19	17	.5	.5
No one employed	74	67	1.8	1.9
With other member(s) unemployed	1,315	1,161	32.8	33.7
Families maintained by women	1,450	1,239	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	681	568	47.0	45.8
With no members employed	769	672	53.0	54.2
With householder unemployed	615	571	42.4	46.1
Other(s) employed	102	91	7.0	7.3
No one employed	513	480	35.4	38.7
With other member(s) unemployed	835	668	57.6	53.9
Families maintained by men	316	282	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	180	174	57.0	61.7
With no members employed	136	108	43.0	38.3
With householder unemployed	130	122	41.1	43.3
Other(s) employed	39	48	12.3	17.0
No one employed	91	74	28.8	26.2
With other member(s) unemployed	186	160	58.9	56.7

Table 4. Families with children under 18 years old by the employment status of parent(s) and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(In thousands)

Characteristic	IV 1986			IV 1987		
	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old
Total families	31,608	17,171	14,437	31,504	17,088	14,416
Married-couple families	24,246	12,564	11,682	24,069	12,378	11,691
With employed parent(s)	23,244	12,091	11,153	23,124	11,874	11,251
Neither unemployed	22,018	11,459	10,559	22,071	11,311	10,761
Father employed	7,799	3,311	4,488	7,489	3,027	4,463
Mother employed	468	327	141	483	326	157
Both employed	13,751	7,821	5,930	14,099	7,958	6,141
One unemployed	1,226	632	594	1,052	563	490
Father unemployed	550	290	260	445	262	184
Mother unemployed	676	342	334	607	301	306
With no employed parent	1,002	474	528	945	505	440
Father unemployed	355	110	245	298	103	195
Mother unemployed	26	14	11	44	28	15
Both unemployed	113	47	66	76	36	40
Neither in labor force	508	303	206	527	338	190
Families maintained by women	6,412	3,976	2,437	6,446	4,049	2,397
Mother employed	3,959	2,824	1,135	4,041	2,901	1,140
Mother not employed	2,453	1,151	1,301	2,405	1,148	1,257
Unemployed	532	285	246	490	259	231
Not in labor force	1,921	866	1,055	1,915	889	1,026
Families maintained by men	950	631	319	989	660	328
Father employed	782	520	262	812	536	276
Father not employed	168	111	58	177	125	52
Unemployed	68	35	33	58	38	20
Not in labor force	100	76	25	119	87	32
Total families with unemployed parents	2,320	1,123	1,195	2,018	1,027	991

Table 5. Employment status of persons in families by family relationship, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	IV 1986					IV 1987				
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed			Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed		
			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)
TOTAL										
In families	146,988	65.8	6,365	6.6	67.8	147,779	66.1	5,427	5.6	68.7
In married-couple families	122,598	66.4	4,405	5.4	76.7	122,554	66.7	3,751	4.6	78.3
Husbands	50,625	78.6	1,601	4.0	61.4	50,833	78.5	1,299	3.3	61.6
Wives	50,625	55.9	1,253	4.4	83.0	50,833	56.9	1,107	3.8	84.1
Other family member(s)	21,348	62.3	1,551	11.7	87.4	20,888	61.8	1,345	10.4	89.6
In families maintained by women	19,437	61.3	1,600	13.4	46.2	19,963	61.6	1,366	11.1	44.8
Householder	10,450	62.3	615	9.4	16.5	10,703	62.7	571	8.5	15.9
Other family member(s)	8,987	60.2	985	18.2	64.8	9,260	60.4	795	14.2	65.5
In families maintained by men	4,953	68.6	361	10.6	54.6	5,263	69.4	309	8.5	57.9
Householder	2,444	76.1	130	7.0	29.9	2,642	74.9	122	6.2	39.7
Other family member(s)	2,509	61.2	231	15.0	68.4	2,621	64.0	187	11.2	70.2
White										
In families	126,728	66.2	4,762	5.7	70.7	127,084	66.3	3,984	4.7	71.7
In married-couple families	109,764	66.3	3,642	5.0	76.9	109,387	66.5	3,061	4.2	78.1
Husbands	45,738	78.5	1,341	3.7	60.9	45,809	78.5	1,091	3.0	60.7
Wives	45,733	55.1	1,051	4.2	83.7	45,743	56.0	923	3.6	84.4
Other family member(s)	18,293	63.9	1,250	10.7	88.2	17,835	62.8	1,047	9.3	90.7
In families maintained by women	13,120	63.7	867	10.4	48.8	13,600	63.6	707	8.2	49.1
Householder	7,182	63.6	332	7.3	19.1	7,402	63.2	290	6.2	21.0
Other family member(s)	5,938	63.9	535	14.1	67.3	6,198	64.1	417	10.5	68.7
In families maintained by men	3,844	70.4	252	9.3	56.3	4,097	70.7	216	7.5	55.1
Householder	1,910	77.9	89	6.0	30.7	2,080	76.7	91	5.7	36.2
Other family member(s)	1,934	62.9	163	13.4	70.8	2,017	64.5	125	9.6	68.8
Black										
In families	15,856	62.7	1,412	14.2	57.7	16,009	64.3	1,248	12.1	58.0
In married-couple families	9,219	66.8	618	10.0	76.4	9,249	68.7	548	8.6	78.3
Husbands	3,562	77.2	197	7.2	63.4	3,600	77.3	162	5.8	65.8
Wives	3,453	64.0	161	7.3	80.7	3,497	66.7	143	6.1	80.4
Other family member(s)	2,204	54.3	260	21.7	83.4	2,152	57.5	243	19.7	85.0
In families maintained by women	5,725	56.1	695	21.6	42.6	5,843	57.4	617	18.4	38.9
Householder	2,983	59.1	271	15.4	12.9	3,039	61.3	266	14.3	9.0
Other family member(s)	2,742	52.8	424	29.3	61.6	2,804	53.0	351	23.6	61.5
In families maintained by men	912	62.3	98	17.3	48.0	917	64.3	81	13.7	67.9
Householder	445	69.0	37	12.0	(1)	451	66.7	25	8.4	(1)
Other family member(s)	467	55.9	61	23.3	59.0	466	62.1	56	19.4	(1)
Hispanic origin										
In families	10,382	63.9	702	10.6	63.3	10,821	64.8	595	8.5	69.1
In married-couple families	7,938	66.0	502	9.6	70.3	8,239	66.1	451	8.3	73.2
Husbands	2,949	86.2	210	8.2	49.8	3,104	84.9	179	6.8	50.7
Wives	3,078	50.8	112	7.2	77.7	3,253	52.1	121	7.1	84.2
Other family member(s)	1,911	59.2	180	15.9	90.0	1,882	59.2	151	13.6	90.9
In families maintained by women	1,924	52.7	148	14.6	40.5	1,968	56.8	118	10.6	52.5
Householder	1,053	51.1	69	12.8	23.3	1,076	53.6	43	7.5	(1)
Other family member(s)	871	54.7	79	16.5	56.4	892	60.5	75	13.9	64.3
In families maintained by men	520	74.8	52	13.4	(1)	614	73.0	26	5.8	(1)
Householder	246	83.9	19	9.2	(1)	295	84.9	8	3.1	(1)
Other family member(s)	274	66.7	33	18.2	(1)	319	61.7	18	9.2	(1)

[1] Data not shown where base is less than 60,000.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	IV 1986	IV 1987	IV 1986	IV 1987	IV 1986	IV 1987
TOTAL						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	42,337	43,079	100.0	100.0	$552	$579
One earner	18,657	18,408	44.1	42.7	347	363
Two or more earners	23,680	24,672	55.9	57.3	728	754
Married-couple families	33,735	34,031	100.0	100.0	616	647
One earner	12,930	12,554	38.3	36.9	397	419
Husband	9,755	9,504	28.9	27.9	473	488
Wife	2,399	2,242	7.1	6.6	218	236
Other family member	776	808	2.3	2.4	217	209
Two or more earners	20,806	21,477	61.7	63.1	757	782
Husband and wife only	14,888	15,562	44.1	45.7	723	750
Husband, wife, and other family member(s)	3,389	3,375	10.0	9.9	992	1033
Husband and other family member(s)	1,869	1,868	5.5	5.5	737	740
Wife and other family member(s)	466	522	1.4	1.5	482	498
Other family members only	193	150	.6	.4	463	527
Families maintained by women	6,834	7,174	100.0	100.0	316	329
One earner	4,682	4,753	68.5	66.3	251	261
Householder	3,746	3,703	54.8	51.6	258	267
Other family member	936	1,051	13.7	14.6	216	228
Two or more earners	2,152	2,421	31.5	33.7	500	526
Families maintained by men	1,767	1,875	100.0	100.0	439	481
One earner	1,046	1,100	59.2	58.7	327	350
Householder	844	858	47.7	45.8	351	378
Other family member	202	242	11.4	12.9	215	257
Two or more earners	721	774	40.8	41.3	635	691
White						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	36,156	36,794	100.0	100.0	576	599
One earner	15,569	15,471	43.1	42.0	372	385
Two or more earners	20,587	21,323	56.9	58.0	742	766
Married-couple families	29,919	30,104	100.0	100.0	627	658
One earner	11,548	11,209	38.6	37.2	408	433
Husband	8,813	8,617	29.5	28.6	482	496
Wife	2,054	1,914	6.9	6.4	220	236
Two or more earners	18,371	18,895	61.4	62.8	768	792
Husband and wife only	13,087	13,726	43.7	45.6	732	759
Families maintained by women	4,872	5,204	100.0	100.0	331	344
One earner	3,232	3,406	66.3	65.4	263	273
Two or more earners	1,640	1,799	33.7	34.6	509	524
Families maintained by men	1,365	1,485	100.0	100.0	466	504
One earner	789	855	57.8	57.6	352	374
Two or more earners	576	630	42.2	42.4	647	711
Black						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	4,906	5,046	100.0	100.0	399	431
One earner	2,545	2,410	51.9	47.8	241	260
Two or more earners	2,360	2,636	48.1	52.2	604	633
Married-couple families	2,817	2,927	100.0	100.0	514	539
One earner	1,015	948	36.0	32.4	269	296
Husband	652	570	23.2	19.5	305	352
Wife	295	272	10.5	9.3	195	219
Two or more earners	1,802	1,979	64.0	67.6	643	681
Husband and wife only	1,337	1,455	47.5	49.7	627	641
Families maintained by women	1,769	1,807	100.0	100.0	273	294
One earner	1,320	1,246	74.6	68.9	218	233
Two or more earners	449	561	25.4	31.1	468	521
Families maintained by men	319	312	100.0	100.0	364	351
One earner	210	217	66.0	69.5	260	294
Two or more earners	109	95	34.0	30.5	516	([2])

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	IV 1986	IV 1987	IV 1986	IV 1987	IV 1986	IV 1987
Hispanic origin						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	3,089	3,333	100.0	100.0	$411	$450
One earner	1,459	1,605	47.2	48.2	264	293
Two or more earners	1,630	1,728	52.8	51.8	570	604
Married-couple families	2,292	2,443	100.0	100.0	468	496
One earner	949	1,043	41.4	42.7	284	317
Husband	775	829	33.8	33.9	304	345
Wife	127	126	5.5	5.2	200	199
Two or more earners	1,343	1,400	58.6	57.3	598	627
Husband and wife only	852	910	37.2	37.3	586	612
Families maintained by women	601	632	100.0	100.0	277	303
One earner	413	417	68.7	65.9	214	241
Two or more earners	188	215	31.3	34.1	437	487
Families maintained by men	196	258	100.0	100.0	370	433
One earner	96	145	49.2	56.4	(2)	299
Two or more earners	100	112	50.8	43.6	494	551

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 7. Families with unemployed members and wage and salary earners by type of family and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	IV 1986	IV 1987	IV 1986	IV 1987	IV 1986	IV 1987
Families with unemployment and wage and salary earners[1]	3,672	3,121	—	—	$352	$377
Married-couple families	2,870	2,439	100.0	100.0	370	405
Husband unemployed	952	760	33.2	31.2	242	251
Wife only earner	763	598	26.6	24.5	227	237
Wife and other earner(s)	108	97	3.8	4.0	492	(2)
Other earners only	81	65	2.8	2.7	(2)	(2)
Wife unemployed	948	813	33.0	33.3	396	397
Husband only earner	795	726	27.7	29.8	371	386
Husband and other earner(s)	130	72	4.5	3.0	584	(2)
Other earners only	23	14	.8	.6	(2)	(2)
Other members unemployed	970	866	33.8	35.5	599	667
Husband or wife earners	428	320	14.9	13.1	434	505
Husband and wife earners	500	486	17.4	19.9	768	828
Other combinations of earners	42	61	1.5	2.5	(2)	(2)
Families maintained by women	614	537	100.0	100.0	284	278
Householder unemployed	76	86	12.4	15.9	(2)	(2)
Other member(s) unemployed	537	452	87.6	84.1	303	299
Families maintained by men	188	145	100.0	100.0	337	355
Householder unemployed	47	46	25.2	31.4	(2)	(2)
Other member(s) unemployed	141	100	74.8	68.6	417	364

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

Table 8. Families by employment status of members and type of family, annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	1986	1987	1986	1987
Married-couple families	50,235	50,679	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	7,522	7,610	15.0	15.0
With at least one member in the labor force	42,713	43,069	85.0	85.0
No member employed	899	770	1.8	1.5
Some member employed	41,814	42,299	83.2	83.5
Husband only	11,862	11,499	23.6	22.7
Wife only	2,467	2,411	4.9	4.8
Husband and wife	23,173	24,169	46.1	47.7
Husband and wife only	18,163	19,043	36.2	37.6
Other combinations	4,312	4,220	8.6	8.3
Families maintained by women	10,364	10,614	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	2,491	2,545	24.0	24.0
With at least one member in the labor force	7,873	8,069	76.0	76.0
No member employed	783	726	7.6	6.8
Some member employed	7,091	7,343	68.4	69.2
Householder employed	5,763	5,983	55.6	56.4
Householder only	3,593	3,735	34.7	35.2
Householder and other(s)	2,170	2,248	20.9	21.2
Other combinations	1,328	1,360	12.8	12.8
Families maintained by men	2,521	2,711	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	297	339	11.8	12.5
With at least one member in the labor force	2,224	2,372	88.2	87.5
No member employed	148	129	5.9	4.8
Some member employed	2,076	2,242	82.3	82.7
Householder employed	1,777	1,923	70.5	70.9
Householder only	963	1,019	38.2	37.6
Householder and other(s)	814	904	32.3	33.3
Other combinations	299	319	11.9	11.8

Table 9. Families with children under 18 years old by the employment status of parent(s) and type of family, annual averages

(In thousands)

Characteristic	1986			1987		
	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old
Total families	31,521	17,123	14,399	31,683	17,239	14,443
Married-couple families	24,207	12,578	11,629	24,215	12,526	11,689
With employed parent(s)	23,085	12,011	11,075	23,208	12,001	11,209
Neither unemployed	21,835	11,385	10,452	22,081	11,401	10,680
Father employed	8,090	3,467	4,624	7,768	3,233	4,535
Mother employed	464	322	143	474	318	156
Both employed	13,281	7,596	5,685	13,839	7,850	5,989
One unemployed	1,250	627	623	1,128	599	530
Father unemployed	543	291	252	499	285	215
Mother unemployed	707	336	371	629	314	315
With no employed parent	1,122	567	554	1,007	526	481
Father unemployed	404	140	264	335	118	216
Mother unemployed	40	25	15	38	24	15
Both unemployed	117	54	62	94	45	49
Neither in labor force	561	348	213	540	339	201
Families maintained by women	6,327	3,888	2,439	6,433	4,019	2,414
Mother employed	3,821	2,700	1,121	3,935	2,820	1,115
Mother not employed	2,506	1,188	1,318	2,498	1,198	1,299
Unemployed	538	287	251	523	271	251
Not in labor force	1,968	901	1,067	1,975	927	1,048
Families maintained by men	987	656	331	1,035	694	341
Father employed	804	537	267	851	570	281
Father not employed	183	119	64	183	124	60
Unemployed	82	44	38	73	42	31
Not in labor force	101	75	26	110	82	29
Total families with unemployed parents	2,431	1,177	1,253	2,191	1,099	1,092

Table 10. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987
TOTAL						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	42,101	42,733	100.0	100.0	$543	$572
One earner	18,789	18,514	44.6	43.3	343	353
Two or more earners	23,312	24,218	55.4	56.7	717	747
Married-couple families	33,569	33,844	100.0	100.0	606	637
One earner	13,049	12,668	38.9	37.4	393	405
Husband	9,979	9,640	29.7	28.5	459	477
Wife	2,351	2,272	7.0	6.7	223	230
Other family member	719	757	2.1	2.2	210	212
Two or more earners	20,520	21,176	61.1	62.6	744	776
Husband and wife only	14,347	14,955	42.7	44.2	712	741
Husband, wife, and other family member(s)	3,397	3,518	10.1	10.4	975	1019
Husband and other family member(s)	2,056	1,996	6.1	5.9	720	749
Wife and other family member(s)	532	560	1.6	1.7	480	512
Other family members only	188	147	.6	.4	469	501
Families maintained by women	6,718	6,963	100.0	100.0	307	317
One earner	4,607	4,702	68.6	67.5	242	254
Householder	3,606	3,675	53.7	52.8	251	263
Other family member	1,001	1,027	14.9	14.8	205	215
Two or more earners	2,110	2,260	31.4	32.5	499	514
Families maintained by men	1,814	1,926	100.0	100.0	444	478
One earner	1,133	1,144	62.4	59.4	351	353
Householder	900	908	49.6	47.1	383	385
Other family member	232	236	12.8	12.3	220	233
Two or more earners	681	782	37.6	40.6	637	675
White						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	36,072	36,555	100.0	100.0	566	592
One earner	15,761	15,554	43.7	42.5	367	377
Two or more earners	20,311	21,001	56.3	57.5	730	761
Married-couple families	29,865	30,095	100.0	100.0	615	647
One earner	11,698	11,385	39.2	37.8	405	416
Husband	9,077	8,784	30.4	29.2	472	485
Wife	1,996	1,946	6.7	6.5	225	231
Two or more earners	18,167	18,710	60.8	62.2	755	785
Husband and wife only	12,656	13,232	42.4	44.0	720	748
Families maintained by women	4,786	4,959	100.0	100.0	320	329
One earner	3,190	3,285	66.6	66.2	252	265
Two or more earners	1,597	1,674	33.4	33.8	502	518
Families maintained by men	1,420	1,501	100.0	100.0	476	492
One earner	873	884	61.5	58.9	375	373
Two or more earners	547	617	38.5	41.1	668	695
Black						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	4,810	4,942	100.0	100.0	391	412
One earner	2,495	2,452	51.9	49.6	240	253
Two or more earners	2,315	2,489	48.1	50.4	605	623
Married-couple families	2,734	2,768	100.0	100.0	503	529
One earner	978	924	35.8	33.4	267	289
Husband	615	581	22.5	21.0	307	335
Wife	289	264	10.6	9.5	209	215
Two or more earners	1,755	1,843	64.2	66.6	645	675
Husband and wife only	1,269	1,318	46.4	47.6	628	646
Families maintained by women	1,756	1,822	100.0	100.0	267	284
One earner	1,301	1,305	74.1	71.6	216	228
Two or more earners	455	517	25.9	28.4	478	495
Families maintained by men	320	352	100.0	100.0	348	383
One earner	215	223	67.2	63.3	287	281
Two or more earners	105	129	32.8	36.7	500	544

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 10. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, annual averages—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987
Hispanic origin						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	3,017	3,219	100.0	100.0	$412	$425
One earner	1,477	1,537	48.9	47.7	267	275
Two or more earners	1,540	1,682	51.1	52.3	582	592
Married-couple families	2,272	2,411	100.0	100.0	459	473
One earner	1,006	1,032	44.3	42.8	289	292
Husband	828	838	36.4	34.8	308	314
Wife	127	122	5.6	5.1	202	209
Two or more earners	1,266	1,379	55.7	57.2	603	615
Husband and wife only	809	884	35.6	36.7	582	593
Families maintained by women	538	575	100.0	100.0	273	285
One earner	368	386	68.3	67.1	212	229
Two or more earners	170	189	31.7	32.9	446	467
Families maintained by men	207	234	100.0	100.0	380	418
One earner	103	120	49.9	51.2	259	314
Two or more earners	104	114	50.1	48.8	530	517

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

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EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES: THIRD QUARTER 1987

The number of families with unemployed members decreased by about 700,000 over the year ended in the third quarter of 1987, while the number with employed members continued to increase, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Median family earnings also continued to rise; at $578 a week in the third quarter, they were 5 percent above the level of a year earlier. Other third-quarter 1987 highlights:

---More than 52 million families--4 out of 5 in all--had at least one employed member. This was nearly a million more than a year before. In three-fourths of all families, someone worked full time. (See tables A and 1.)

---Of the 5.4 million families with an unemployed member, about 73 percent also had someone who was employed. Families maintained by women were the least likely to have an employed member. (See tables A and 3.)

---There were 18.6 million employed mothers with children under 18 years of age, 560,000 more than a year earlier. Most of this increase was among families with school-age children. Both parents were employed in 62 percent of the married-couple families where the youngest child was 6 to 17 years old. (See tables A and 4.)

---Median wage and salary earnings of all married-couple families rose by about 6 percent over the year to reach $644 a week. This increase is partly explained by the fact that more of such families have two earners and fewer have only one earner. The earnings of white married-couple families continued to exceed those of their black counterparts. The black-white difference in earnings among such families was much larger where there was only one earner (40 percent) than where there were two or more earners (13 percent). (See table 6.)

Table A. Summary labor force characteristics of families, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	III 1986	III 1987	Change
Total families	63,104	64,057	953
With employed member(s)	51,135	52,119	984
Percent of total families	81.0	81.4	.4
With member(s) employed full time	47,346	48,404	1,058
Percent of total families	75.0	75.6	.6
With unemployed member(s)	6,081	5,380	-701
Percent with employed member(s)	71.6	72.5	.9
Percent of total families	9.6	8.4	-1.2
With unemployed member(s), none employed	1,727	1,478	-249
Percent of total families	2.7	2.3	-.4
With no members in labor force	10,242	10,460	218
Percent with no members under 60 years old	61.2	60.9	-.3
Percent of total families	16.2	16.3	.1
With children under 18 years old	31,517	31,690	173
Percent with employed parent(s)	88.0	88.6	.6
Percent with employed mother	57.1	58.6	1.5
Percent of total families	49.9	49.5	-.4
With children under 6 years old	14,370	14,401	31
Percent with employed parent(s)	86.8	87.5	.7
Percent with employed mother	50.1	51.3	1.2
Percent of total families	22.8	22.5	-.3

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The estimates in this release were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), which provides basic information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment. The survey is conducted monthly for the Bureau of Labor Statistics by the Bureau of the Census from a scientifically selected national sample of households, with coverage in all 50 States and the District of Columbia. The size of the monthly sample is about 59,500 households. The earnings data are collected from one-quarter of the CPS monthly sample and are limited to wages and salaries. The data, therefore, exclude self-employment income.

Reliability

In any sample survey, variations in the data can occur by chance because a sample, rather than the whole of the population, is surveyed. The standard error is a measure of such potential variation. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the survey differs from a figure that would be obtained from a complete census by less than one standard error. The chances are about 90 out of 100 that such a difference would be less than 1.6 standard errors. All statements of comparisons in the text of this release are significant at 1.6 or more standard errors.

Standard errors for numbers and proportions of families can be approximated using tables found in the Household Data section of the Explanatory Notes in Employment and Earnings. Representative standard errors for median family earnings are available from BLS upon request.

Definitions

The principal definitions used in this release are described briefly below.

Family. A family is a group of two or more persons residing together who are related by blood, marriage, or adoption. The count of families is for "primary" families only, that is, the householder and all other persons related to and residing with the householder. Not included are unrelated subfamilies. Families are classified either as married-couple families or families maintained by women or men without spouses.

Householder. A householder is the person in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented.

Children. Children are defined as "own" children, that is, never-married sons, daughters, step-children, and adopted children. Excluded are other related children, such as nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and cousins, and unrelated children.

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Employed. Employed persons are those who during the survey week: (a) Did any work at all as paid civilians; (b) worked in their own business or profession or on their own farms; or (c) worked 15 hours or more as an unpaid worker in a family operated enterprise. Also included are those who were temporarily absent from their jobs because of illness, vacation, bad weather, labor-management disputes, or personal reasons.

Full-time workers. Persons who usually work 35 hours or more per week on their sole or principal job. Persons who work less than 35 hours are part-time workers.

Unemployed. The unemployed are persons who had no employment during the survey week were available for work at that time and made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the prior 4 weeks. Persons laid off from their former jobs and awainting recall and those expecting to report to a job within 30 days need not be looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

Civilian labor force. The civilian labor force is the sum of the employed and the unemployed.

Wage and salary workers. Workers who receive wages, salaries, commissions, tips, payment in kind, or piece rates. Persons who report themselves as self-employed, including those whose businesses are incorporated, are excluded from coverage in these earnings data.

Usual weekly earnings. Data on usual weekly earnings are provided from responses to the question, "How much does...USUALLY earn per week at this job before deductions? Include any overtime pay, commissions, or tips usually received." The response is for the worker's sole or principal job, and the term "usual" is as perceived by the respondent. If the respondent asks for a definition of "usual," interviewers are instructed to define the term as more than half the weeks worked during the past 4 or 5 months.

Median weekly earnings. The median of weekly earnings is the value at which 50 percent of the earnings distribution lies above and 50 percent lies below. The estimating procedure places each reported earnings value into intervals which are centered around multiples of $50. The actual value is calculated through linear interpolation of the interval in which the median lies.

Over-the-year changes in the medians for component groups may not necessarily be consistent with the changes estimated for the overall median and therefore are not presented in this release. Circumstances under which this can occur include: (1) Even though medians of component groups may rise, if the lower-earnings group accounts for a sufficiently increased share of the total, the overall median can rise less than for any of the groups; and (2) survey observations tend to be clustered at rounded values, such as $250, $300, and $400, and an estimated median lying in a $50-wide centered interval containing such a cluster changes more slowly than one in non-clustered intervals. For example, if the medians for component groups are not in a cluster but the overall group median is, then the increase in the overall median will be less than for the components.

Table 1. Families by employment status of members, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	III 1986	III 1987	III 1986	III 1987
TOTAL				
Total families	63,104	64,057	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	10,242	10,460	16.2	16.3
With at least one member in the labor force	52,862	53,597	83.8	83.7
No member employed	1,727	1,478	2.7	2.3
Some member employed	51,135	52,119	81.0	81.4
No one unemployed	46,781	48,217	74.1	75.3
One or more employed full time	43,515	44,979	89.0	70.2
Some member unemployed	4,354	3,902	6.9	6.1
One or more employed full time	3,831	3,425	6.1	5.3
White				
Total families	54,467	55,171	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	8,712	8,967	16.0	16.3
With at least one member in the labor force	45,755	46,204	84.0	83.7
No member employed	1,183	949	2.2	1.7
Some member employed	44,572	45,256	81.8	82.0
No one unemployed	41,196	42,200	75.6	76.5
One or more employed full time	38,460	39,487	70.6	71.6
Some member unemployed	3,376	3,056	6.2	5.5
One or more employed full time	2,998	2,687	5.5	4.9
Black				
Total families	6,949	7,119	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	1,334	1,280	19.2	18.0
With at least one member in the labor force	5,615	5,838	80.8	82.0
No member employed	486	481	7.0	6.8
Some member employed	5,129	5,357	73.8	75.2
No one unemployed	4,296	4,657	61.8	65.4
One or more employed full time	3,851	4,208	55.4	59.1
Some member unemployed	833	700	12.0	9.8
One or more employed full time	708	609	10.2	8.6
Hispanic origin				
Total families	4,228	4,420	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	622	647	14.7	14.6
With at least one member in the labor force	3,607	3,774	85.3	85.4
No member employed	201	148	4.8	3.3
Some member employed	3,406	3,625	80.6	82.0
No one unemployed	2,978	3,229	70.4	73.1
One or more employed full time	2,739	2,973	64.8	67.3
Some member unemployed	428	396	10.1	9.0
One or more employed full time	379	337	9.0	7.6

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 2. Families by employment status of members and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	III 1986	III 1987	III 1986	III 1987
Married-couple families	50,195	50,691	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	7,470	7,585	14.9	15.0
With at least one member in the labor force	42,724	43,106	85.1	85.0
No member employed	818	653	1.6	1.3
Some member employed	41,906	42,453	83.5	83.7
Husband only	11,683	11,521	23.3	22.7
Wife only	2,333	2,275	4.6	4.5
Husband and wife	23,223	24,118	46.3	47.6
Husband and wife only	17,812	18,605	35.5	36.7
Other combinations	4,667	4,539	9.3	9.0
Families maintained by women	10,405	10,637	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	2,498	2,522	24.0	23.7
With at least one member in the labor force	7,907	8,115	76.0	76.3
No member employed	773	702	7.4	6.6
Some member employed	7,134	7,413	68.6	69.7
Householder employed	5,755	5,966	55.3	56.1
Householder only	3,439	3,547	33.1	33.3
Householder and other(s)	2,316	2,419	22.3	22.7
Other combinations	1,379	1,447	13.3	13.6
Families maintained by men	2,504	2,729	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	274	353	10.9	12.9
With at least one member in the labor force	2,230	2,376	89.1	87.1
No member employed	135	123	5.4	4.5
Some member employed	2,095	2,253	83.7	82.6
Householder employed	1,799	1,952	71.8	71.5
Householder only	928	1,000	37.1	36.6
Householder and other(s)	871	952	34.8	34.9
Other combinations	296	301	11.8	11.0

Table 3. Families with unemployed members by type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	III 1986	III 1987	III 1986	III 1987
Families with unemployment	6,081	5,380	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	4,354	3,902	71.6	72.5
With no members employed	1,727	1,478	28.4	27.5
Married-couple families	4,243	3,698	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	3,425	3,045	80.7	82.3
With no members employed	818	653	19.3	17.7
With husband unemployed	1,453	1,283	34.2	34.7
Wife employed	788	745	18.6	20.1
Other(s) employed	77	80	1.8	2.2
No one employed	588	457	13.9	12.4
With wife unemployed	1,279	1,082	30.1	29.3
Husband employed	1,163	998	27.4	27.0
Other(s) employed	28	16	.7	.4
No one employed	88	68	2.1	1.8
With other member(s) unemployed	1,511	1,333	35.6	36.0
Families maintained by women	1,501	1,366	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	728	664	48.5	48.6
With no members employed	773	702	51.5	51.4
With householder unemployed	644	619	42.9	45.3
Other(s) employed	120	118	8.0	8.6
No one employed	524	501	34.9	36.7
With other member(s) unemployed	857	747	57.1	54.7
Families maintained by men	337	316	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	202	194	59.9	61.4
With no members employed	135	123	40.1	38.9
With householder unemployed	143	124	42.4	39.2
Other(s) employed	48	41	14.2	13.0
No one employed	95	83	28.2	26.3
With other member(s) unemployed	194	192	57.6	60.8

Table 4. Families with children under 18 years old by the employment status of parent(s) and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(In thousands)

Characteristic	III 1986			III 1987		
	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old
Total families	31,517	17,146	14,370	31,690	17,289	14,401
Married-couple families	24,214	12,621	11,593	24,286	12,596	11,690
With employed parent(s)	23,184	12,083	11,102	23,339	12,098	11,240
Neither unemployed	21,901	11,451	10,450	22,195	11,493	10,702
Father employed	8,169	3,581	4,588	7,973	3,386	4,587
Mother employed	466	329	137	448	309	139
Both employed	13,266	7,541	5,725	13,774	7,798	5,976
One unemployed	1,283	631	652	1,144	605	538
Father unemployed	497	268	229	463	262	201
Mother unemployed	786	363	423	681	343	337
With no employed parent	1,029	539	491	948	498	450
Father unemployed	346	129	218	273	97	176
Mother unemployed	40	26	14	30	16	14
Both unemployed	109	54	55	89	42	47
Neither in labor force	534	330	204	556	343	213
Families maintained by women	6,347	3,887	2,461	6,373	4,008	2,365
Mother employed	3,779	2,667	1,113	3,886	2,820	1,066
Mother not employed	2,568	1,221	1,347	2,487	1,188	1,300
Unemployed	557	294	263	531	284	247
Not in labor force	2,011	927	1,084	1,956	904	1,053
Families maintained by men	956	639	317	1,031	685	346
Father employed	781	525	256	845	555	290
Father not employed	174	114	60	186	130	55
Unemployed	79	43	36	64	37	27
Not in labor force	95	71	24	122	93	28
Total families with unemployed parents	2,414	1,177	1,238	2,131	1,081	1,049

Table 5. Employment status of persons in families by family relationship, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	III 1986					III 1987				
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed			Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed		
			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)
TOTAL										
In families	146,519	66.7	6,742	6.9	69.3	148,036	66.8	5,890	6.0	70.4
In married-couple families	121,943	67.2	4,667	5.7	78.0	122,695	67.4	4,040	4.9	79.8
Husbands	50,195	78.5	1,453	3.7	59.5	50,691	78.5	1,283	3.2	64.4
Wives	50,195	55.0	1,440	5.2	83.8	50,691	55.7	1,204	4.3	85.8
Other family member(s)	21,553	69.3	1,774	11.9	88.5	21,313	68.9	1,553	10.6	87.9
In families maintained by women	19,468	62.4	1,704	14.0	48.2	19,857	62.4	1,518	12.2	48.0
Householder	10,405	61.5	644	10.1	18.6	10,637	61.9	619	9.4	19.1
Other family member(s)	9,063	63.4	1,060	18.5	66.2	9,220	63.0	899	15.5	67.9
In families maintained by men	5,110	70.4	372	10.3	57.0	5,484	70.0	332	8.6	58.1
Householder	2,504	77.5	143	7.4	33.7	2,729	76.1	124	6.0	33.1
Other family member(s)	2,606	63.5	229	13.8	71.7	2,755	64.0	208	11.8	73.0
White										
In families	126,369	67.0	4,937	5.8	71.4	127,388	67.1	4,294	5.0	74.0
In married-couple families	109,311	67.1	3,793	5.2	77.5	109,715	67.3	3,283	4.4	80.2
Husbands	45,362	78.5	1,201	3.4	58.1	45,752	78.5	1,077	3.0	64.2
Wives	45,344	54.3	1,199	4.9	83.8	45,726	55.0	1,005	4.0	86.7
Other family member(s)	18,605	70.9	1,393	10.6	88.9	18,237	70.4	1,201	9.4	89.0
In families maintained by women	13,129	64.2	889	10.5	49.0	13,470	64.1	782	9.1	52.9
Householder	7,144	62.6	360	8.1	23.6	7,313	62.1	303	6.7	26.6
Other family member(s)	5,985	66.1	529	13.4	66.4	6,157	66.5	479	11.7	69.6
In families maintained by men	3,929	72.1	254	9.0	57.9	4,203	70.9	229	7.7	58.1
Householder	1,951	79.4	98	6.3	33.6	2,105	77.2	83	5.1	32.9
Other family member(s)	1,978	64.9	156	12.1	73.4	2,098	64.6	146	10.7	72.6
Black										
In families	15,805	64.3	1,582	15.6	63.2	16,041	65.3	1,393	13.3	58.5
In married-couple families	9,085	67.8	697	11.3	81.3	9,180	69.2	615	9.7	77.9
Husbands	3,535	76.9	190	7.0	67.8	3,562	77.6	162	5.9	67.5
Wives	3,418	62.4	183	8.6	86.3	3,448	65.1	159	7.1	79.9
Other family member(s)	2,132	61.2	324	24.8	86.5	2,170	61.7	294	22.0	82.5
In families maintained by women	5,787	58.6	780	23.0	47.9	5,852	58.7	691	20.1	41.7
Householder	2,982	59.0	268	15.3	12.6	3,056	61.2	299	16.0	10.9
Other family member(s)	2,805	58.3	512	31.3	66.4	2,796	56.0	392	25.0	65.0
In families maintained by men	933	65.7	105	17.1	55.2	1,009	67.8	86	12.6	55.8
Householder	450	70.9	41	12.9	(1)	509	71.0	31	8.5	(1)
Other family member(s)	483	60.9	64	21.6	69.3	500	64.6	55	17.0	(1)
Hispanic origin										
In families	10,328	65.1	745	11.1	65.5	10,746	65.2	592	8.4	71.6
In married-couple families	7,935	66.4	530	10.1	72.1	8,243	66.5	430	7.8	76.3
Husbands	2,963	85.4	177	7.0	47.2	3,113	85.0	145	5.5	55.3
Wives	3,097	51.5	146	9.2	79.5	3,241	51.7	121	7.2	84.4
Other family member(s)	1,875	60.9	207	18.1	88.1	1,889	61.5	164	14.1	89.4
In families maintained by women	1,876	56.1	161	15.3	45.3	1,863	55.2	128	12.5	56.3
Householder	1,011	51.9	54	10.4	(1)	1,012	53.0	48	8.9	(1)
Other family member(s)	865	61.2	107	20.3	54.1	851	57.8	80	16.3	68.8
In families maintained by men	517	77.2	53	13.3	(1)	640	77.5	34	6.9	(1)
Householder	241	86.2	24	11.5	(1)	290	84.3	10	4.1	(1)
Other family member(s)	276	69.2	29	15.2	(1)	350	71.7	24	9.7	(1)

[1] Data not shown where base is less than 60,000.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	III 1986	III 1987	III 1986	III 1987	III 1986	III 1987
TOTAL						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	42,047	43,008	100.0	100.0	$551	$578
One earner	18,563	18,436	44.1	42.9	348	352
Two or more earners	23,484	24,572	55.9	57.1	719	760
Married-couple families	33,547	34,077	100.0	100.0	607	644
One earner	12,964	12,720	38.6	37.3	396	403
Husband	9,997	9,665	29.8	28.4	457	470
Wife	2,255	2,217	6.7	6.5	226	246
Other family member	712	837	2.1	2.5	209	216
Two or more earners	20,583	21,358	61.4	62.7	748	790
Husband and wife only	13,963	14,704	41.6	43.1	704	747
Husband, wife, and other family member(s)	3,675	3,724	11.0	10.9	1011	1043
Husband and other family member(s)	2,250	2,239	6.7	6.6	723	771
Wife and other family member(s)	522	572	1.6	1.7	520	580
Other family members only	174	119	.5	.3	537	550
Families maintained by women	6,632	6,987	100.0	100.0	306	316
One earner	4,474	4,626	67.5	66.2	238	250
Householder	3,405	3,518	51.3	50.4	248	260
Other family member	1,069	1,108	16.1	15.9	204	212
Two or more earners	2,158	2,361	32.5	33.8	499	527
Families maintained by men	1,869	1,943	100.0	100.0	498	495
One earner	1,125	1,090	60.2	56.1	388	367
Householder	880	891	47.1	45.8	432	395
Other family member	245	199	13.1	10.3	222	229
Two or more earners	743	853	39.8	43.9	667	691
White						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	35,941	36,674	100.0	100.0	575	598
One earner	15,471	15,398	43.0	42.0	374	374
Two or more earners	20,471	21,276	57.0	58.0	738	773
Married-couple families	29,834	30,336	100.0	100.0	618	653
One earner	11,570	11,421	38.8	37.6	409	412
Husband	9,076	8,777	30.4	28.9	471	478
Wife	1,887	1,909	6.3	6.3	230	243
Two or more earners	18,264	18,915	61.2	62.4	762	796
Husband and wife only	12,352	13,044	41.4	43.0	715	751
Families maintained by women	4,660	4,892	100.0	100.0	318	326
One earner	3,050	3,177	65.4	65.0	246	259
Two or more earners	1,611	1,714	34.6	35.0	504	541
Families maintained by men	1,447	1,446	100.0	100.0	522	508
One earner	851	800	58.8	55.3	405	392
Two or more earners	596	646	41.2	44.7	713	704
Black						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	4,888	5,083	100.0	100.0	385	409
One earner	2,554	2,520	52.2	49.6	236	255
Two or more earners	2,334	2,563	47.8	50.4	593	634
Married-couple families	2,736	2,738	100.0	100.0	490	540
One earner	1,005	933	36.7	34.1	253	295
Husband	610	607	22.3	22.2	302	333
Wife	299	248	10.9	9.1	204	249
Two or more earners	1,732	1,805	63.3	65.9	623	702
Husband and wife only	1,211	1,252	44.2	45.7	607	691
Families maintained by women	1,795	1,925	100.0	100.0	268	293
One earner	1,311	1,337	73.0	69.5	216	229
Two or more earners	484	587	27.0	30.5	473	499
Families maintained by men	357	421	100.0	100.0	388	385
One earner	238	250	66.7	59.4	343	266
Two or more earners	119	171	33.3	40.6	507	559

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	III 1986	III 1987	III 1986	III 1987	III 1986	III 1987
Hispanic origin						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	2,970	3,228	100.0	100.0	$431	$417
One earner	1,358	1,537	45.7	47.6	261	266
Two or more earners	1,612	1,691	54.3	52.4	604	598
Married-couple families	2,253	2,422	100.0	100.0	486	468
One earner	909	1,041	40.4	43.0	284	285
Husband	740	835	32.8	34.5	301	303
Wife	130	148	5.8	6.1	228	235
Two or more earners	1,344	1,382	59.6	57.0	620	616
Husband and wife only	830	874	36.8	36.1	591	593
Families maintained by women	532	573	100.0	100.0	277	275
One earner	363	397	68.3	69.2	215	212
Two or more earners	169	177	31.7	30.8	430	468
Families maintained by men	185	232	100.0	100.0	353	443
One earner	86	99	46.2	42.7	(2)	(2)
Two or more earners	100	133	53.8	57.3	594	537

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 7. Families with unemployed members and wage and salary earners by type of family and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	III 1986	III 1987	III 1986	III 1987	III 1986	III 1987
Families with unemployment and wage and salary earners[1]	3,883	3,535	—	—	$385	$384
Married-couple families	3,007	2,760	100.0	100.0	410	407
Husband unemployed	833	874	27.7	31.7	243	264
Wife only earner	666	684	22.2	24.8	225	247
Wife and other earner(s)	112	107	3.7	3.9	460	550
Other earners only	54	83	1.8	3.0	(2)	(2)
Wife unemployed	1,099	941	36.5	34.1	390	434
Husband only earner	902	766	30.0	27.7	360	398
Husband and other earner(s)	163	158	5.4	5.7	662	679
Other earners only	33	17	1.1	.6	(2)	(2)
Other members unemployed	1,075	945	35.8	34.2	626	627
Husband or wife earners	446	409	14.8	14.8	489	469
Husband and wife earners	588	471	19.6	17.1	775	797
Other combinations of earners	41	65	1.4	2.3	(2)	(2)
Families maintained by women	691	595	100.0	100.0	271	265
Householder unemployed	123	112	17.8	18.9	167	206
Other member(s) unemployed	569	482	82.2	81.1	299	279
Families maintained by men	185	180	100.0	100.0	424	388
Householder unemployed	45	37	24.4	20.3	(2)	(2)
Other member(s) unemployed	140	143	75.6	79.7	477	429

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

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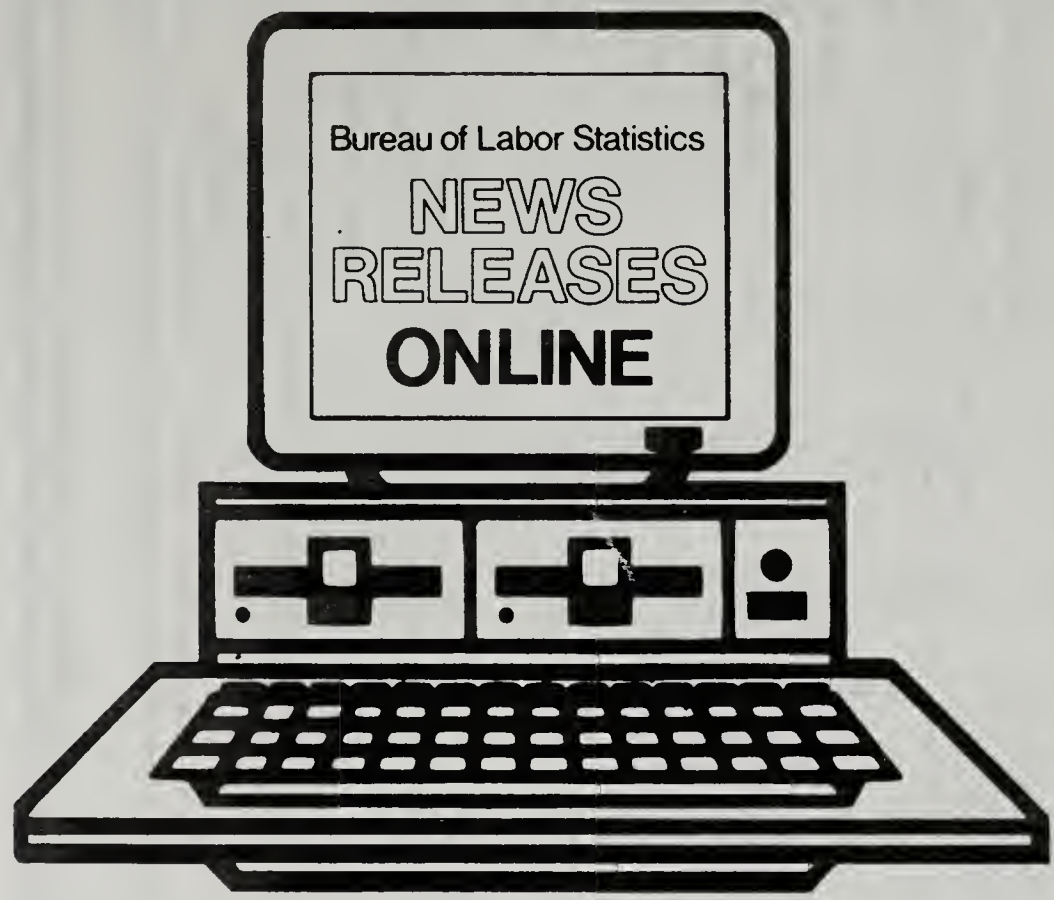

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EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES: SECOND QUARTER 1987

The number of families with employed members rose by nearly 1.1 million over the year ended in the second quarter of 1987, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Family earnings also grew rapidly, with the median reaching $572 a week in the second quarter, 6.5 percent more than a year earlier. Other second-quarter highlights follow.

--Of the nation's 64 million families, 81 percent (51.9 million) contained at least one employed member. In 48 million, someone worked full time. (See tables A and 1.)

--Although married-couple families comprised most of the over-the-year gain in the number with employed members, families maintained by men or women with no spouses--which together comprise about a fifth of all families--accounted for two-fifths of the increase. (See table 2.)

--Unemployed persons were found in about 5.8 million families, 540,000 fewer than in the same period a year earlier. There was at least one employed person in 71 percent of these families. (See tables A and 3.)

--Of the 31.9 million families with children under the age of 18, the mother was employed outside the home in three-fifths of them. This represented an increase of about a million employed mothers over the year. Nearly half this increase occurred among mothers with pre-school children. (See tables A and 4.)

--Median weekly earnings of families with two or more wage and salary workers ($741) continued to be about double those of families with only one earner ($353). (See table 6.)

Table A. Summary labor force characteristics of families, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Number in thousands)

Characteristic	II 1986	II 1987	Change
Total families	62,917	64,001	1,084
With employed member(s)	50,794	51,876	1,082
Percent of total families	80.7	81.1	.4
With member(s) employed full time	46,778	47,971	1,193
Percent of total families	74.3	75.0	.7
With unemployed member(s)	6,310	5,770	-540
Percent with employed member(s)	71.2	71.3	.1
Percent of total families	10.0	9.0	-1.0
With unemployed member(s), non employed	1,817	1,657	-160
Percent of total families	2.9	2.6	-.3
With no members in labor force	10,306	10,469	163
Percent with no members under 60 years old	61.0	60.5	-.5
Percent of total families	16.4	16.4	0
With children under 18 years old	31,463	31,890	427
Percent with employed parent(s)	87.8	88.3	.5
Percent with employed mother	56.8	59.2	2.4
Percent of total families	50.0	49.8	-.2
With children under 6 years old	14,360	14,555	195
Percent with employed parent(s)	86.6	87.2	.6
Percent with employed mother	49.3	51.9	2.6
percent of total families	22.8	22.7	-.1

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

The estimates in this release were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), which provides basic information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment. The survey is conducted monthly for the Bureau of Labor Statistics by the Bureau of the Census from a scientifically selected national sample of households, with coverage in all 50 States and the District of Columbia. The size of the monthly sample is about 59,500 households. The earnings data are collected from one-quarter of the CPS monthly sample and are limited to wages and salaries. The data, therefore, exclude self-employment income.

Reliability

In any sample survey, variations in the data can occur by chance because a sample, rather than the whole of the population, is surveyed. The standard error is a measure of such potential variation. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the survey differs from a figure that would be obtained from a complete census by less than one standard error. The chances are about 90 out of 100 that such a difference would be less than 1.6 standard errors. All statements of comparisons in the text of this release are significant at 1.6 or more standard errors.

Standard errors for numbers and proportions of families can be approximated using tables found in the Household Data section of the Explanatory Notes in Employment and Earnings. Representative standard errors for median family earnings are available from BLS upon request.

Definitions

The principal definitions used in this release are described briefly below.

Family. A family is a group of two or more persons residing together who are related by blood, marriage, or adoption. The count of families is for "primary" families only, that is, the householder and all other persons related to and residing with the householder. Not included are unrelated subfamilies. Families are classified either as married-couple families or families maintained by women or men without spouses.

Householder. A householder is the person in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented.

Children. Children are defined as "own" children, that is, never-married sons, daughters, step-children, and adopted children. Excluded are other related children, such as nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and cousins, and unrelated children.

Employed. Employed persons are those who during the survey week: (a) Did any work at all as paid civilians; (b) worked in their own business or profession or on their own farms; or (c) worked 15 hours or more as an unpaid worker in a family operated enterprise. Also included are those who were temporarily absent from their jobs because of illness, vacation, bad weather, labor-management disputes, or personal reasons.

Full-time workers. Persons who usually work 35 hours or more per week on their sole or principal job. Persons who work less than 35 hours are part-time workers.

Unemployed. The unemployed are persons who had no employment during the survey week were available for work at that time and made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the prior 4 weeks. Persons laid off from their former jobs and awainting recall and those expecting to report to a job within 30 days need not be looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

Civilian labor force. The civilian labor force is the sum of the employed and the unemployed.

Wage and salary workers. Workers who receive wages, salaries, commissions, tips, payment in kind, or piece rates. Persons who report themselves as self-employed, including those whose businesses are incorporated, are excluded from coverage in these earnings data.

Usual weekly earnings. Data on usual weekly earnings are provided from responses to the question, "How much does...USUALLY earn per week at this job before deductions? Include any overtime pay, commissions, or tips usually received." The response is for the worker's sole or principal job, and the term "usual" is as perceived by the respondent. If the respondent asks for a definition of "usual," interviewers are instructed to define the term as more than half the weeks worked during the past 4 or 5 months.

Median weekly earnings. The median of weekly earnings is the value at which 50 percent of the earnings distribution lies above and 50 percent lies below. The estimating procedure places each reported earnings value into intervals which are centered around multiples of $50. The actual value is calculated through linear interpolation of the interval in which the median lies.

Over-the-year changes in the medians for component groups may not necessarily be consistent with the changes estimated for the overall median and therefore are not presented in this release. Circumstances under which this can occur include: (1) Even though medians of component groups may rise, if the lower-earnings group accounts for a sufficiently increased share of the total, the overall median can rise less than for any of the groups; and (2) survey observations tend to be clustered at rounded values, such as $250, $300, and $400, and an estimated median lying in a $50-wide centered interval containing such a cluster changes more slowly than one in non-clustered intervals. For example, if the medians for component groups are not in a cluster but the overall group median is, then the increase in the overall median will be less than for the components.

Table 1. Families by employment status of members, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	II 1986	II 1987	II 1986	II 1987
TOTAL				
Total families	62,917	64,001	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	10,306	10,469	16.4	16.4
With at least one member in the labor force	52,611	53,533	83.6	83.6
No member employed	1,817	1,657	2.9	2.6
Some member employed	50,794	51,876	80.7	81.1
No one unemployed	46,301	47,763	73.6	74.6
One or more employed full time	42,820	44,376	68.1	69.3
Some member unemployed	4,493	4,113	7.1	6.4
One or more employed full time	3,958	3,595	6.3	5.6
White				
Total families	54,378	55,167	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	8,791	8,905	16.2	16.1
With at least one member in the labor force	45,587	46,261	83.8	83.9
No member employed	1,251	1,110	2.3	2.0
Some member employed	44,336	45,152	81.5	81.8
No one unemployed	40,821	41,936	75.1	76.0
One or more employed full time	37,863	39,053	69.6	70.8
Some member unemployed	3,515	3,216	6.5	5.8
One or more employed full time	3,105	2,822	5.7	5.1
Black				
Total families	6,857	7,076	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	1,301	1,361	19.0	19.2
With at least one member in the labor force	5,557	5,716	81.0	80.8
No member employed	509	489	7.4	6.9
Some member employed	5,048	5,227	73.6	73.9
No one unemployed	4,216	4,461	61.5	63.0
One or more employed full time	3,780	4,046	55.1	57.2
Some member unemployed	832	766	12.1	10.8
One or more employed full time	728	657	10.6	9.3
Hispanic origin				
Total families	4,227	4,392	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	654	649	15.5	14.8
With at least one member in the labor force	3,573	3,743	84.5	85.2
No member employed	213	182	5.0	4.1
Some member employed	3,360	3,561	79.5	81.1
No one unemployed	2,958	3,157	70.0	71.9
One or more employed full time	2,685	2,921	63.5	66.5
Some member unemployed	402	404	9.5	9.2
One or more employed full time	349	356	8.3	8.1

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 2. Families by employment status of members and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	II 1986	II 1987	II 1986	II 1987
Married-couple families	50,068	50,652	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	7,514	7,564	15.0	14.9
With at least one member in the labor force	42,553	43,088	85.0	85.1
No member employed	884	780	1.8	1.5
Some member employed	41,669	42,309	83.2	83.5
Husband only	11,963	11,416	23.9	22.5
Wife only	2,480	2,404	5.0	4.7
Husband and wife	22,908	24,196	45.8	47.8
Husband and wife only	17,814	18,951	35.6	37.4
Other combinations	4,318	4,293	8.6	8.5
Families maintained by women	10,332	10,561	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	2,477	2,545	24.0	24.1
With at least one member in the labor force	7,855	8,016	76.0	75.9
No member employed	782	752	7.6	7.1
Some member employed	7,072	7,265	68.4	68.8
Householder employed	5,744	5,946	55.6	56.3
Householder only	3,581	3,758	34.7	35.6
Householder and other(s)	2,163	2,188	20.9	20.7
Other combinations	1,328	1,319	12.9	12.5
Families maintained by men	2,517	2,788	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	315	359	12.5	12.9
With at least one member in the labor force	2,203	2,428	87.5	87.1
No member employed	150	125	6.0	4.5
Some member employed	2,053	2,303	81.6	82.6
Householder employed	1,750	1,981	69.5	71.1
Householder only	975	1,044	38.7	37.4
Householder and other(s)	775	937	30.8	33.6
Other combinations	303	322	12.0	11.5

Table 3. Families with unemployed members by type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	II 1986	II 1987	II 1986	II 1987
Families with unemployment	6,310	5,770	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	4,493	4,113	71.2	71.3
With no members employed	1,817	1,657	28.8	28.7
Married-couple families	4,397	3,984	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	3,513	3,204	79.9	80.4
With no members employed	884	780	20.1	19.6
With husband unemployed	1,603	1,501	36.5	37.7
Wife employed	855	839	19.4	21.1
Other(s) employed	82	93	1.9	2.3
No one employed	666	570	15.1	14.3
With wife unemployed	1,147	948	26.1	23.8
Husband employed	1,039	864	23.6	21.7
Other(s) employed	24	12	.5	.3
No one employed	84	72	1.9	1.8
With other member(s) unemployed	1,647	1,535	37.5	38.5
Families maintained by women	1,536	1,437	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	753	686	49.0	47.7
With no members employed	782	752	50.9	52.3
With householder unemployed	616	611	40.1	42.5
Other(s) employed	103	88	6.7	6.1
No one employed	513	523	33.4	36.4
With other member(s) unemployed	920	826	59.9	57.5
Families maintained by men	378	349	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	227	223	60.1	63.9
With no members employed	150	125	39.7	35.8
With householder unemployed	164	144	43.4	41.3
Other(s) employed	50	52	13.2	14.9
No one employed	114	92	30.2	26.4
With other member(s) unemployed	214	205	56.6	58.7

Table 4. Families with children under 18 years old by the employment status of parent(s) and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(In thousands)

Characteristic	II 1986			II 1987		
	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old
Total families	31,463	17,102	14,360	31,890	17,335	14,555
Married-couple families	24,170	12,569	11,601	24,359	12,575	11,784
With employed parent(s)	23,012	11,970	11,041	23,364	12,056	11,308
Neither unemployed	21,839	11,392	10,448	22,292	11,508	10,784
Father employed	8,275	3,542	4,734	7,841	3,281	4,560
Mother employed	468	316	152	485	326	159
Both employed	13,096	7,534	5,562	13,966	7,901	6,065
One unemployed	1,173	579	593	1,072	549	524
Father unemployed	510	272	238	511	281	230
Mother unemployed	663	307	355	561	268	294
With no employed parent	1,159	598	560	995	519	476
Father unemployed	413	151	262	345	122	223
Mother unemployed	46	29	17	35	19	16
Both unemployed	104	48	55	83	40	43
Neither in labor force	596	370	226	532	338	194
Families maintained by women	6,287	3,865	2,421	6,454	4,031	2,423
Mother employed	3,800	2,675	1,126	3,922	2,821	1,102
Mother not employed	2,487	1,191	1,296	2,531	1,210	1,321
Unemployed	524	287	237	526	261	265
Not in labor force	1,963	904	1,059	2,005	949	1,056
Families maintained by men	1,006	668	338	1,078	729	349
Father employed	811	544	267	886	601	285
Father not employed	195	123	72	192	127	64
Unemployed	80	44	36	82	45	37
Not in labor force	115	79	36	110	82	27
Total families with unemployed parents	2,340	1,138	1,200	2,143	1,036	1,108

Table 5. Employment status of persons in families by family relationship, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	II 1986					II 1987				
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed			Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed		
			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)
TOTAL										
In families	146,198	65.8	6,963	7.2	68.7	148,117	66.2	6,259	6.4	68.8
In married-couple families	121,627	66.4	4,809	6.0	77.3	122,860	66.9	4,300	5.2	77.7
Husbands	50,068	78.4	1,603	4.1	58.4	50,652	78.6	1,501	3.8	62.1
Wives	50,068	54.5	1,298	4.8	83.0	50,652	55.9	1,079	3.8	82.5
Other family member(s)	21,491	65.9	1,908	13.5	89.4	21,556	65.3	1,720	12.2	88.3
In families maintained by women	19,473	61.7	1,742	14.5	47.4	19,688	60.8	1,592	13.3	46.5
Householder	10,332	61.6	616	9.7	16.7	10,561	62.1	611	9.3	14.4
Other family member(s)	9,141	61.8	1,126	19.9	64.1	9,127	59.4	981	18.1	66.4
In families maintained by men	5,099	68.3	413	11.9	57.9	5,569	69.3	367	9.5	61.3
Householder	2,517	76.0	164	8.6	30.5	2,788	76.2	144	6.8	35.8
Other family member(s)	2,582	60.7	240	15.9	75.8	2,781	62.4	223	12.8	78.3
White										
In families	126,076	66.1	5,120	6.1	71.1	127,591	66.6	4,595	5.4	71.7
In married-couple families	108,868	66.3	3,912	5.4	77.4	110,111	66.9	3,527	4.8	77.9
Husbands	45,218	78.4	1,307	3.7	57.6	45,799	78.6	1,260	3.5	61.5
Wives	45,216	53.6	1,078	4.4	83.6	45,779	55.2	894	3.5	83.3
Other family member(s)	18,434	67.5	1,527	12.3	89.9	18,533	67.1	1,373	11.0	89.3
In families maintained by women	13,254	63.5	927	11.0	48.3	13,224	62.8	817	9.8	48.2
Householder	7,162	62.8	338	7.5	21.7	7,216	63.0	318	7.0	15.8
Other family member(s)	6,092	64.4	589	15.0	63.7	6,008	62.5	499	13.3	68.9
In families maintained by men	3,954	69.0	281	10.3	58.7	4,256	70.0	251	8.4	61.4
Householder	1,990	76.8	120	7.8	29.8	2,154	77.0	97	5.8	38.2
Other family member(s)	1,964	61.2	161	13.4	80.2	2,102	62.8	154	11.7	75.8
Black										
In families	15,751	64.3	1,608	15.9	60.8	16,004	63.5	1,459	14.3	60.0
In married-couple families	9,137	68.2	720	11.6	77.6	9,026	68.0	626	10.2	78.0
Husbands	3,521	77.6	225	8.2	62.5	3,499	77.7	180	6.6	67.0
Wives	3,416	64.0	173	7.9	79.7	3,404	64.5	150	6.8	80.1
Other family member(s)	2,200	59.4	322	24.6	87.3	2,123	57.6	296	24.2	83.5
In families maintained by women	5,716	57.6	776	23.6	46.3	5,904	56.2	735	22.1	44.4
Householder	2,925	58.8	266	15.5	10.0	3,065	59.9	278	15.1	12.4
Other family member(s)	2,791	56.3	510	32.5	65.1	2,839	52.3	457	30.8	63.8
In families maintained by men	898	67.1	113	18.7	52.2	1,074	66.4	98	13.7	62.2
Householder	431	73.3	40	12.7	(1)	526	72.1	41	10.7	(1)
Other family member(s)	467	61.3	73	25.3	66.6	548	60.9	57	17.2	(1)
Hispanic origin										
In families	10,289	63.3	692	10.6	63.0	10,636	64.4	632	9.2	66.1
In married-couple families	7,856	65.0	477	9.3	71.3	8,145	66.7	434	8.0	74.2
Husbands	2,965	85.1	172	6.8	45.3	3,083	85.0	166	6.4	53.8
Wives	3,086	49.0	109	7.2	87.5	3,178	53.1	112	6.6	82.6
Other family member(s)	1,805	59.3	196	18.3	85.4	1,884	59.5	156	13.9	90.0
In families maintained by women	1,809	52.7	153	16.1	33.3	1,902	52.3	148	14.9	42.6
Householder	959	48.1	65	14.2	20.8	1,025	50.6	61	11.8	15.2
Other family member(s)	850	57.9	88	17.9	42.2	877	54.1	87	18.3	62.5
In families maintained by men	624	73.1	61	13.4	73.8	589	72.7	50	11.7	(1)
Householder	276	80.8	27	12.3	(1)	275	81.7	22	9.8	(1)
Other family member(s)	348	67.0	34	14.8	(1)	314	64.6	28	13.7	(1)

[1] Data not shown where base is less than 60,000.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	II 1986	II 1987	II 1986	II 1987	II 1986	II 1987
TOTAL						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	41,917	42,634	100.0	100.0	$537	$572
One earner	18,935	18,579	45.2	43.6	341	353
Two or more earners	22,982	24,055	54.8	56.4	715	741
Married-couple families	33,381	33,742	100.0	100.0	603	639
One earner	13,081	12,574	39.2	37.3	393	405
Husband	10,044	9,649	30.1	28.6	455	476
Wife	2,355	2,250	7.1	6.7	226	223
Other family member	682	675	2.0	2.0	206	216
Two or more earners	20,300	21,167	60.8	62.7	740	767
Husband and wife only	14,088	14,826	42.2	43.9	712	728
Husband, wife, and other family member(s)	3,335	3,625	10.0	10.7	942	995
Husband and other family member(s)	2,161	1,987	6.5	5.9	721	752
Wife and other family member(s)	508	556	1.5	1.6	492	531
Other family members only	207	173	.6	.5	449	433
Families maintained by women	6,715	6,832	100.0	100.0	305	313
One earner	4,640	4,744	69.1	69.4	241	256
Householder	3,623	3,753	53.9	54.9	251	267
Other family member	1,017	991	15.1	14.5	200	209
Two or more earners	2,076	2,089	30.9	30.6	501	511
Families maintained by men	1,820	2,060	100.0	100.0	408	467
One earner	1,214	1,261	66.7	61.2	334	346
Householder	959	1,013	52.7	49.2	368	383
Other family member	255	248	14.0	12.0	211	212
Two or more earners	607	799	33.3	38.8	646	655
White						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	35,988	36,486	100.0	100.0	558	593
One earner	15,990	15,599	44.4	42.8	364	378
Two or more earners	19,998	20,887	55.6	57.2	723	754
Married-couple families	29,646	30,082	100.0	100.0	609	648
One earner	11,780	11,357	39.7	37.8	403	415
Husband	9,197	8,836	31.0	29.4	466	484
Wife	1,990	1,930	6.7	6.4	229	227
Two or more earners	17,866	18,725	60.3	62.2	747	775
Husband and wife only	12,369	13,114	41.7	43.6	717	736
Families maintained by women	4,895	4,836	100.0	100.0	320	326
One earner	3,259	3,276	66.6	67.7	254	271
Two or more earners	1,635	1,560	33.4	32.3	503	516
Families maintained by men	1,447	1,568	100.0	100.0	438	474
One earner	950	966	65.7	61.6	360	363
Two or more earners	497	603	34.3	38.4	661	681
Black						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	4,727	4,922	100.0	100.0	399	411
One earner	2,383	2,500	50.4	50.8	243	251
Two or more earners	2,344	2,423	49.6	49.2	636	626
Married-couple families	2,782	2,719	100.0	100.0	523	536
One earner	919	906	33.0	33.3	286	295
Husband	576	596	20.7	21.9	329	338
Wife	283	251	10.2	9.2	222	191
Two or more earners	1,863	1,813	67.0	66.7	673	673
Husband and wife only	1,318	1,280	47.4	47.1	653	637
Families maintained by women	1,660	1,802	100.0	100.0	260	273
One earner	1,262	1,352	76.0	75.0	213	218
Two or more earners	398	450	24.0	25.0	486	477
Families maintained by men	285	401	100.0	100.0	310	428
One earner	202	242	70.9	60.3	271	269
Two or more earners	83	159	29.1	39.7	([2])	575

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	II 1986	II 1987	II 1986	II 1987	II 1986	II 1987
Hispanic origin						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	3,013	3,192	100.0	100.0	$409	$425
One earner	1,545	1,484	51.3	46.5	268	282
Two or more earners	1,468	1,708	48.7	53.5	594	580
Married-couple families	2,270	2,424	100.0	100.0	450	473
One earner	1,067	983	47.0	40.6	294	295
Husband	894	806	39.4	33.3	314	311
Wife	112	106	4.9	4.4	191	206
Two or more earners	1,204	1,440	53.0	59.4	611	605
Husband and wife only	813	973	35.8	40.1	597	579
Families maintained by women	525	568	100.0	100.0	264	295
One earner	366	391	69.8	68.9	209	249
Two or more earners	158	177	30.2	31.1	502	462
Families maintained by men	218	201	100.0	100.0	376	391
One earner	112	109	51.6	54.5	241	304
Two or more earners	105	91	48.4	45.5	535	([2])

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 7. Families with unemployed members and wage and salary earners by type of family and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	II 1986	II 1987	II 1986	II 1987	II 1986	II 1987
Families with unemployment and wage and salary earners[1]	3,944	3,498	--	--	$384	$395
Married-couple families	3,062	2,663	100.0	100.0	409	436
Husband unemployed	954	861	31.1	32.3	240	258
Wife only earner	730	648	23.8	24.3	222	232
Wife and other earner(s)	135	145	4.4	5.5	388	505
Other earners only	89	68	2.9	2.5	([2])	([2])
Wife unemployed	970	771	31.7	28.9	402	419
Husband only earner	817	640	26.7	24.1	383	389
Husband and other earner(s)	127	117	4.1	4.4	617	692
Other earners only	27	14	.9	.5	([2])	([2])
Other members unemployed	1,138	1,032	37.2	38.7	652	684
Husband or wife earners	486	415	15.9	15.6	499	518
Husband and wife earners	619	590	20.2	22.2	746	813
Other combinations of earners	33	27	1.1	1.0	([2])	([2])
Families maintained by women	678	623	100.0	100.0	285	279
Householder unemployed	72	78	10.6	12.5	([2])	([2])
Other member(s) unemployed	606	545	89.4	87.5	301	286
Families maintained by men	205	212	100.0	100.0	367	357
Householder unemployed	53	55	25.7	26.1	([2])	([2])
Other member(s) unemployed	152	157	74.3	73.9	409	475

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

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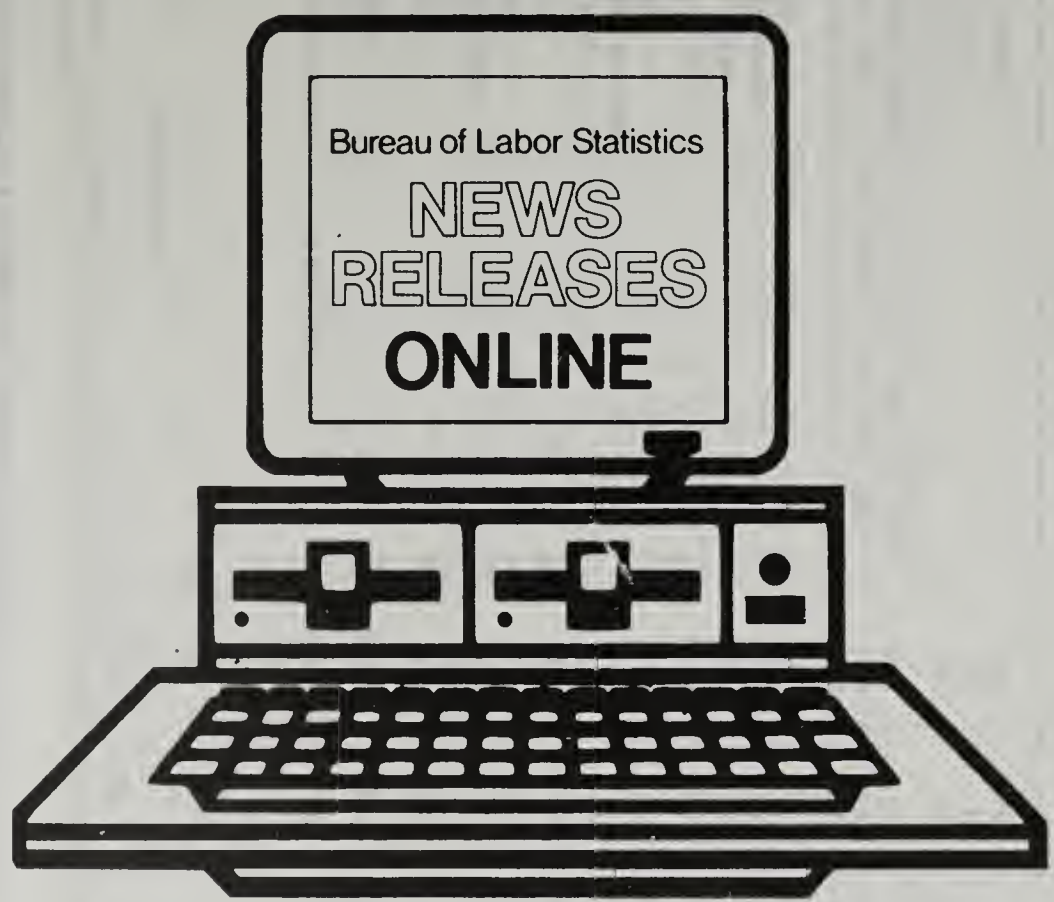

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TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 1987

EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES: FIRST QUARTER 1987

The labor market situation among families continued to improve over the year, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. In the first quarter of 1987, there were about 6.2 million families with an unemployed member, 250,000 fewer than a year earlier. Median usual family earnings reached $557 a week in the first quarter, up nearly 5 percent from a year earlier. Other first quarter 1987 highlights follow.

--The decline in unemployment was led by married-couple families as the number where the wife was jobless moved down by about 150,000. Of all families with unemployed members, married-couple families were also the most likely to have some members who were working--nearly 80 percent. In contrast, among families hit by unemployment that were maintained by women, the probability of having employed members was less than 50 percent. (See table 3.)

--The number of families with employed members grew rapidly over the year, rising by 740,000 to a total of 51.3 million in the first quarter. The number of married-couple families in which both spouses were employed increased by almost a million to 23.6 million and now account for 47 percent of all couples. Partly as a result, the number (and proportion) where only the husband was employed dropped. (See tables A and 2.)

--Among families with pre-school children, the number in which the mother was employed rose by nearly 300,000 over the year, reaching 7.3 million in the first quarter of 1987. This occurred despite the fact that the total number of families with young children was about unchanged. (See table 4.)

--For families with both unemployed and working members, median weekly earnings rose 13 percent over the year to $375 in the first quarter. Earnings levels in such families varied greatly, depending on which member was unemployed and which was a wage and salary worker. For instance, median earnings were $211 a week for couples where the husband was jobless and the wife was the only worker, compared to $745 where both spouses were working and the unemployed person was another family member--usually a young son or daughter. (See table 7.)

Table A. Summary labor force characteristics of families, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	I 1986	I 1987	Change
Total families	62,944	63,778	834
With employed member(s)	50,518	51,259	741
Percent of total families	80.3	80.4	.1
With member(s) employed full time	46,478	47,130	652
Percent of total families	73.8	73.9	.1
With unemployed member(s)	6,482	6,230	-252
Percent with employed member(s)	68.5	69.1	.6
Percent of total families	10.3	9.8	-.5
With unemployed member(s), none employed	2,041	1,926	-115
Percent of total families	3.2	3.0	-.2
With no members in labor force	10,385	10,593	208
Percent with no members under 60 years old	60.8	61.2	.4
Percent of total families	16.5	16.6	.1
With children under 18 years old	31,498	31,647	149
Percent with employed parent(s)	87.3	87.7	.4
Percent with employed mother	56.6	58.3	1.7
Percent of total families	50.0	49.6	-.4
With children under 6 years old	14,427	14,401	-26
Percent with employed parent(s)	85.9	86.5	.6
Percent with employed mother	48.9	50.9	2.0
Percent of total families	22.9	22.6	-.3

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The estimates in this release were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), which provides basic information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment. The survey is conducted monthly for the Bureau of Labor Statistics by the Bureau of the Census from a scientifically selected national sample of households, with coverage in all 50 States and the District of Columbia. The size of the monthly sample is about 59,500 households. The earnings data are collected from one-quarter of the CPS monthly sample and are limited to wages and salaries. The data, therefore, exclude self-employment income.

Reliability

In any sample survey, variations in the data can occur by chance because a sample, rather than the whole of the population, is surveyed. The standard error is a measure of such potential variation. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the survey differs from a figure that would be obtained from a complete census by less than one standard error. The chances are about 90 out of 100 that such a difference would be less than 1.6 standard errors. All statements of comparisons in the text of this release are significant at 1.6 or more standard errors.

Standard errors for numbers and proportions of families can be approximated using tables found in the Household Data section of the Explanatory Notes in Employment and Earnings. Representative standard errors for median family earnings are available from BLS upon request.

Definitions

The principal definitions used in this release are described briefly below.

Family. A family is a group of two or more persons residing together who are related by blood, marriage, or adoption. The count of families is for "primary" families only, that is, the householder and all other persons related to and residing with the householder. Not included are unrelated subfamilies. Families are classified either as married-couple families or families maintained by women or men without spouses.

Householder. A householder is the person in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented.

Children. Children are defined as "own" children, that is, never-married sons, daughters, step-children, and adopted children. Excluded are other related children, such as nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and cousins, and unrelated children.

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Employed. Employed persons are those who during the survey week: (a) Did any work at all as paid civilians; (b) worked in their own business or profession or on their own farms; or (c) worked 15 hours or more as an unpaid worker in a family operated enterprise. Also included are those who were temporarily absent from their jobs because of illness, vacation, bad weather, labor-management disputes, or personal reasons.

Full-time workers. Persons who usually work 35 hours or more per week on their sole or principal job. Persons who work less than 35 hours are part-time workers.

Unemployed. The unemployed are persons who had no employment during the survey week were available for work at that time and made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the prior 4 weeks. Persons laid off from their former jobs and awainting recall and those expecting to report to a job within 30 days need not be looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

Civilian labor force. The civilian labor force is the sum of the employed and the unemployed.

Wage and salary workers. Workers who receive wages, salaries, commissions, tips, payment in kind, or piece rates. Persons who report themselves as self-employed, including those whose businesses are incorporated, are excluded from coverage in these earnings data.

Usual weekly earnings. Data on usual weekly earnings are provided from responses to the question, "How much does...USUALLY earn per week at this job before deductions? Include any overtime pay, commissions, or tips usually received." The response is for the worker's sole or principal job, and the term "usual" is as perceived by the respondent. If the respondent asks for a definition of "usual," interviewers are instructed to define the term as more than half the weeks worked during the past 4 or 5 months.

Median weekly earnings. The median of weekly earnings is the value at which 50 percent of the earnings distribution lies above and 50 percent lies below. The estimating procedure places each reported earnings value into intervals which are centered around multiples of $50. The actual value is calculated through linear interpolation of the interval in which the median lies.

Over-the-year changes in the medians for component groups may not necessarily be consistent with the changes estimated for the overall median and therefore are not presented in this release. Circumstances under which this can occur include: (1) Even though medians of component groups may rise, if the lower-earnings group accounts for a sufficiently increased share of the total, the overall median can rise less than for any of the groups; and (2) survey observations tend to be clustered at rounded values, such as $250, $300, and $400, and an estimated median lying in a $50-wide centered interval containing such a cluster changes more slowly than one in non-clustered intervals. For example, if the medians for component groups are not in a cluster but the overall group median is, then the increase in the overall median will be less than for the components.

Table 1. Families by employment status of members, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	I 1986	I 1987	I 1986	I 1987
TOTAL				
Total families	62,944	63,778	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	10,385	10,593	16.5	16.6
With at least one member in the labor force	52,559	53,184	83.5	83.4
No member employed	2,041	1,926	3.2	3.0
Some member employed	50,518	51,259	80.3	80.4
No one unemployed	46,077	46,955	73.2	73.6
One or more employed full time	42,676	43,476	67.8	68.2
Some member unemployed	4,441	4,304	7.1	6.7
One or more employed full time	3,802	3,654	6.0	5.7
White				
Total families	54,456	55,043	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	8,809	8,924	16.2	16.2
With at least one member in the labor force	45,647	46,119	83.8	83.8
No member employed	1,480	1,369	2.7	2.5
Some member employed	44,168	44,750	81.1	81.3
No one unemployed	40,603	41,303	74.6	75.0
One or more employed full time	37,731	38,386	69.3	69.7
Some member unemployed	3,565	3,447	6.5	6.3
One or more employed full time	3,043	2,934	5.6	5.3
Black				
Total families	6,849	7,028	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	1,388	1,451	20.3	20.6
With at least one member in the labor force	5,461	5,577	79.7	79.4
No member employed	497	513	7.3	7.3
Some member employed	4,964	5,063	72.5	72.0
No one unemployed	4,213	4,346	61.5	61.8
One or more employed full time	3,768	3,879	55.0	55.2
Some member unemployed	751	717	11.0	10.2
One or more employed full time	647	598	9.4	8.5
Hispanic origin				
Total families	4,195	4,369	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	627	604	14.9	13.8
With at least one member in the labor force	3,569	3,764	85.1	86.2
No member employed	233	219	5.6	5.0
Some member employed	3,336	3,546	79.5	81.2
No one unemployed	2,927	3,115	69.8	71.3
One or more employed full time	2,705	2,837	64.5	64.9
Some member unemployed	409	431	9.7	9.9
One or more employed full time	337	368	8.0	8.4

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 2. Families by employment status of members and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	I 1986	I 1987	I 1986	I 1987
Married-couple families	50,054	50,542	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	7,547	7,711	15.1	15.3
With at least one member in the labor force	42,507	42,830	84.9	84.7
No member employed	1,064	986	2.1	2.0
Some member employed	41,443	41,844	82.8	82.8
Husband only	12,108	11,649	24.2	23.0
Wife only	2,572	2,570	5.1	5.1
Husband and wife	22,587	23,559	45.1	46.6
Husband and wife only	18,025	18,801	36.0	37.2
Other combinations	4,176	4,066	8.3	8.0
Families maintained by women	10,270	10,553	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	2,525	2,589	24.6	24.5
With at least one member in the labor force	7,745	7,963	75.4	75.5
No member employed	806	778	7.8	7.4
Some member employed	6,939	7,185	67.6	68.1
Householder employed	5,657	5,883	55.1	55.7
Householder only	3,592	3,798	35.0	36.0
Householder and other(s)	2,065	2,085	20.1	19.8
Other combinations	1,282	1,302	12.5	12.3
Families maintained by men	2,620	2,683	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	313	292	11.9	10.9
With at least one member in the labor force	2,307	2,391	88.1	89.1
No member employed	171	162	6.5	6.0
Some member employed	2,136	2,229	81.5	83.1
Householder employed	1,829	1,900	69.8	70.8
Householder only	1,020	1,051	38.9	39.2
Householder and other(s)	809	849	30.9	31.6
Other combinations	307	329	11.7	12.3

Table 3. Families with unemployed members by type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	I 1986	I 1987	I 1986	I 1987
Families with unemployment	6,482	6,230	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	4,441	4,304	68.5	69.1
With no members employed	2,041	1,926	31.5	30.9
Married-couple families	4,578	4,399	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	3,514	3,413	76.8	77.6
With no members employed	1,064	986	23.2	22.4
With husband unemployed	1,936	1,842	42.3	41.9
Wife employed	1,013	987	22.1	22.4
Other(s) employed	110	113	2.4	2.6
No one employed	813	742	17.8	16.9
With wife unemployed	1,248	1,099	27.3	25.0
Husband employed	1,120	996	24.5	22.6
Other(s) employed	24	18	.5	.4
No one employed	104	85	2.3	1.9
With other member(s) unemployed	1,394	1,458	30.4	33.1
Families maintained by women	1,525	1,457	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	719	679	47.1	46.6
With no members employed	806	778	52.9	53.4
With householder unemployed	648	644	42.5	44.2
Other(s) employed	99	95	6.5	6.5
No one employed	549	549	36.0	37.7
With other member(s) unemployed	877	813	57.5	55.8
Families maintained by men	378	374	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	207	212	54.8	56.7
With no members employed	171	162	45.2	43.3
With householder unemployed	186	180	49.2	48.1
Other(s) employed	47	65	12.4	17.4
No one employed	139	115	36.8	30.7
With other member(s) unemployed	192	194	50.8	51.9

Table 4. Families with children under 18 years old by the employment status of parent(s) and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(In thousands)

Characteristic	I 1986			I 1987		
	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old
Total families	31,498	17,071	14,427	31,647	17,246	14,401
Married-couple families	24,198	12,560	11,639	24,145	12,554	11,592
With employed parent(s)	22,901	11,902	10,999	23,006	11,972	11,034
Neither unemployed	21,582	11,235	10,347	21,763	11,294	10,469
Father employed	8,117	3,432	4,685	7,768	3,239	4,529
Mother employed	455	315	140	479	311	168
Both employed	13,010	7,488	5,522	13,516	7,744	5,772
One unemployed	1,318	666	652	1,243	678	565
Father unemployed	614	335	279	577	333	244
Mother unemployed	704	331	373	666	345	321
With no employed parent	1,298	657	640	1,139	581	558
Father unemployed	503	171	332	422	151	271
Mother unemployed	49	31	17	44	31	13
Both unemployed	141	67	74	129	63	66
Neither in labor force	605	388	217	544	336	208
Families maintained by women	6,262	3,823	2,438	6,458	3,988	2,470
Mother employed	3,745	2,635	1,110	3,891	2,741	1,151
Mother not employed	2,516	1,188	1,328	2,567	1,247	1,320
Unemployed	540	282	258	543	280	263
Not in labor force	1,976	906	1,070	2,024	967	1,057
Families maintained by men	1,038	688	351	1,043	704	339
Father employed	843	559	285	862	589	272
Father not employed	195	129	66	181	115	67
Unemployed	100	53	46	89	49	41
Not in labor force	95	76	20	92	66	26
Total families with unemployed parents	2,651	1,270	1,379	2,470	1,252	1,219

Table 5. Employment status of persons in families by family relationship, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	I 1986					I 1987				
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed			Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed		
			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)
TOTAL										
In families	145,969	64.8	7,234	7.6	66.2	147,595	65.3	6,942	7.2	67.1
In married-couple families	121,273	65.4	5,078	6.4	74.0	122,525	65.9	4,892	6.1	75.2
Husbands	50,054	78.3	1,936	4.9	58.0	50,542	78.3	1,842	4.7	59.7
Wives	50,054	54.4	1,439	5.3	80.8	50,542	55.5	1,292	4.6	80.5
Other family member(s)	21,165	60.9	1,703	13.2	86.4	21,441	61.1	1,758	13.4	87.5
In families maintained by women	19,408	60.2	1,736	14.9	46.7	19,741	60.2	1,652	13.9	46.2
Householder	10,270	61.4	648	10.3	15.2	10,553	61.8	644	9.9	14.7
Other family member(s)	9,138	58.9	1,088	20.2	65.5	9,188	58.4	1,008	18.8	66.3
In families maintained by men	5,288	67.9	419	11.7	52.0	5,331	70.2	398	10.6	54.5
Householder	2,620	76.9	186	9.2	24.9	2,683	77.5	180	8.7	36.2
Other family member(s)	2,668	59.1	233	14.8	73.6	2,648	62.7	218	13.1	69.5
White										
In families	125,964	65.2	5,514	6.7	68.4	127,216	65.7	5,275	6.3	69.4
In married-couple families	108,651	65.4	4,256	6.0	73.8	109,606	65.8	4,097	5.7	74.5
Husbands	45,279	78.4	1,657	4.7	57.2	45,656	78.3	1,588	4.4	58.6
Wives	45,235	53.6	1,229	5.1	81.4	45,639	54.6	1,075	4.3	80.4
Other family member(s)	18,137	62.4	1,370	12.1	87.2	18,311	62.5	1,434	12.5	87.7
In families maintained by women	13,124	62.5	955	11.6	49.6	13,332	62.7	877	10.5	50.4
Householder	7,076	62.8	370	8.3	20.6	7,238	63.5	343	7.5	18.4
Other family member(s)	6,048	62.1	585	15.6	67.9	6,094	61.7	534	14.2	71.1
In families maintained by men	4,189	68.7	303	10.5	50.5	4,278	71.2	303	9.9	56.1
Householder	2,100	77.5	145	8.9	24.5	2,156	79.1	138	8.1	36.2
Other family member(s)	2,089	59.7	158	12.6	74.4	2,122	63.3	165	12.3	72.7
Black										
In families	15,713	61.8	1,506	15.5	58.8	15,946	62.1	1,463	14.8	58.0
In married-couple families	9,069	65.7	663	11.1	76.2	9,214	66.6	640	10.4	78.4
Husbands	3,502	76.2	217	8.1	63.8	3,551	76.3	189	7.0	65.1
Wives	3,415	62.6	162	7.6	78.3	3,457	64.4	180	8.1	81.1
Other family member(s)	2,152	53.4	284	24.7	84.4	2,206	54.3	271	22.6	85.9
In families maintained by women	5,797	55.1	743	23.3	43.5	5,858	54.8	736	22.9	41.2
Householder	2,952	58.0	263	15.3	7.7	3,049	58.2	288	16.2	10.3
Other family member(s)	2,845	52.1	480	32.4	63.0	2,809	51.0	448	31.2	61.3
In families maintained by men	847	66.7	99	17.5	57.6	874	64.5	87	15.4	49.4
Householder	413	74.0	33	10.9	([1])	439	69.5	38	12.4	([1])
Other family member(s)	434	59.9	66	25.2	72.4	435	59.7	49	19.0	([1])
Hispanic origin										
In families	10,217	62.2	775	12.2	61.9	10,662	63.9	748	11.0	64.3
In married-couple families	7,610	64.0	541	11.1	67.8	8,092	65.7	535	10.1	70.3
Husbands	2,899	86.0	218	8.7	48.8	3,065	86.1	217	8.2	53.4
Wives	3,013	48.1	139	9.6	80.0	3,156	50.6	127	7.9	75.3
Other family member(s)	1,698	55.0	184	19.7	80.9	1,871	57.8	191	17.7	86.1
In families maintained by women	1,938	52.0	176	17.5	45.5	1,927	52.5	146	14.4	47.3
Householder	978	49.1	62	13.0	19.2	1,007	49.5	54	10.8	([1])
Other family member(s)	960	54.9	114	21.6	59.5	920	55.8	92	17.9	63.6
In families maintained by men	669	71.4	58	12.1	([1])	643	75.3	68	14.0	51.5
Householder	292	83.0	28	11.5	([1])	290	84.6	33	13.4	([1])
Other family member(s)	377	62.4	30	12.6	([1])	353	67.2	35	14.6	([1])

[1] Data not shown where base is less than 60,000.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	I 1986	I 1987	I 1986	I 1987	I 1986	I 1987
TOTAL						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	42,101	42,209	100.0	100.0	$531	$557
One earner	19,000	18,636	45.1	44.2	335	343
Two or more earners	23,101	23,574	54.9	55.8	708	735
Married-couple families	33,612	33,527	100.0	100.0	597	620
One earner	13,219	12,825	39.3	38.3	386	395
Husband	10,120	9,739	30.1	29.0	454	469
Wife	2,394	2,378	7.1	7.1	225	219
Other family member	705	707	2.1	2.1	209	207
Two or more earners	20,393	20,702	60.7	61.7	733	763
Husband and wife only	14,450	14,727	43.0	43.9	706	737
Husband, wife, and other family member(s)	3,188	3,349	9.5	10.0	952	999
Husband and other family member(s)	1,944	1,889	5.8	5.6	701	725
Wife and other family member(s)	633	592	1.9	1.8	444	453
Other family members only	177	146	.5	.4	454	515
Families maintained by women	6,690	6,857	100.0	100.0	303	309
One earner	4,635	4,686	69.3	68.3	237	248
Householder	3,651	3,726	54.6	54.3	248	257
Other family member	984	960	14.7	14.0	202	215
Two or more earners	2,055	2,170	30.7	31.7	495	489
Families maintained by men	1,799	1,826	100.0	100.0	437	461
One earner	1,146	1,124	63.7	61.6	355	353
Householder	919	870	51.1	47.6	378	386
Other family member	226	255	12.6	14.0	247	251
Two or more earners	653	701	36.3	38.4	588	654
White						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	36,203	36,267	100.0	100.0	554	578
One earner	16,014	15,749	44.2	43.4	360	367
Two or more earners	20,189	20,518	55.8	56.6	721	750
Married-couple families	30,063	29,858	100.0	100.0	606	630
One earner	11,896	11,553	39.6	38.7	400	406
Husband	9,223	8,906	30.7	29.8	466	480
Wife	2,052	2,034	6.8	6.8	225	220
Two or more earners	18,168	18,304	60.4	61.3	743	774
Husband and wife only	12,817	13,043	42.6	43.7	715	747
Families maintained by women	4,718	4,905	100.0	100.0	313	321
One earner	3,217	3,281	68.2	66.9	245	256
Two or more earners	1,501	1,625	31.8	33.1	493	490
Families maintained by men	1,421	1,504	100.0	100.0	467	483
One earner	902	915	63.4	60.9	384	362
Two or more earners	520	589	36.6	39.1	621	678
Black						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	4,719	4,715	100.0	100.0	377	399
One earner	2,498	2,379	52.9	50.4	240	247
Two or more earners	2,221	2,337	47.1	49.6	596	605
Married-couple families	2,600	2,687	100.0	100.0	483	503
One earner	976	910	37.5	33.9	262	270
Husband	622	550	23.9	20.5	295	319
Wife	282	285	10.8	10.6	218	202
Two or more earners	1,624	1,777	62.5	66.1	641	647
Husband and wife only	1,212	1,286	46.6	47.9	629	623
Families maintained by women	1,801	1,754	100.0	100.0	269	273
One earner	1,313	1,285	72.9	73.3	219	233
Two or more earners	488	469	27.1	26.7	487	472
Families maintained by men	319	273	100.0	100.0	339	380
One earner	210	183	65.8	66.9	295	304
Two or more earners	109	90	34.2	33.1	449	([2])

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 7. Families with unemployed members and wage and salary earners by type of family and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	I 1986	I 1987	I 1986	I 1987	I 1986	I 1987
Families with unemployment and wage and salary earners[1]	4,015	3,743	--	--	$332	$375
Married-couple families	3,169	2,926	100.0	100.0	351	400
Husband unemployed	1,152	1,002	36.3	34.2	230	228
Wife only earner	846	744	26.7	25.4	214	211
Wife and other earner(s)	191	155	6.0	5.3	391	386
Other earners only	115	103	3.6	3.5	193	178
Wife unemployed	1,030	905	32.5	30.9	380	395
Husband only earner	882	773	27.8	26.4	354	384
Husband and other earner(s)	124	113	3.9	3.8	570	590
Other earners only	23	20	.7	.7	(2)	(2)
Other members unemployed	988	1,019	31.2	34.8	625	645
Husband or wife earners	423	397	13.3	13.6	402	543
Husband and wife earners	530	590	16.7	20.2	793	745
Other combinations of earners	35	32	1.1	1.1	(2)	(2)
Families maintained by woman	664	617	100.0	100.0	271	272
Householder unemployed	117	73	17.6	11.8	188	(2)
Other member(s) unemployed	547	545	82.4	88.2	294	286
Families maintained by men	182	199	100.0	100.0	328	345
Householder unemployed	40	70	22.3	35.3	(2)	(2)
Other member(s) unemployed	141	129	77.7	64.7	345	374

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	I 1986	I 1987	I 1986	I 1987	I 1986	I 1987
Hispanic origin						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	2,997	3,124	100.0	100.0	$401	$412
One earner	1,545	1,522	51.6	48.7	274	260
Two or more earners	1,452	1,602	48.4	51.3	556	581
Married-couple families	2,274	2,355	100.0	100.0	427	449
One earner	1,098	1,060	48.3	45.0	294	271
Husband	903	863	39.7	37.5	312	295
Wife	138	110	8.1	4.7	187	199
Two or more earners	1,175	1,295	51.7	55.0	579	609
Husband and wife only	741	778	32.6	33.0	545	581
Families maintained by women	495	526	100.0	100.0	275	270
One earner	328	338	66.3	64.4	209	213
Two or more earners	167	187	33.7	35.6	442	447
Families maintained by men	228	243	100.0	100.0	408	415
One earner	118	124	52.0	51.0	332	335
Two or more earners	110	119	48.0	49.0	542	503

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

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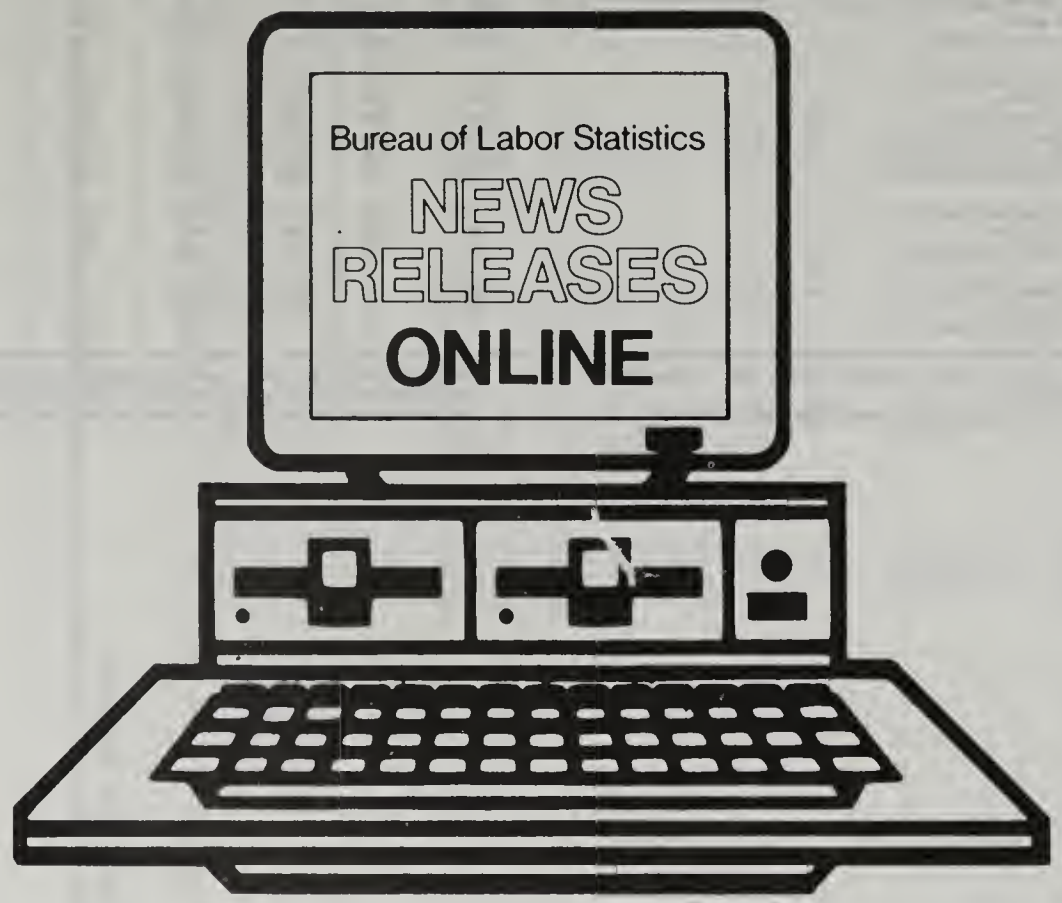

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FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1987

EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES: FOURTH QUARTER 1986

The number of families with employed members increased by 650,000 over the year ended with the fourth quarter of 1986, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. For families with wage and salary workers, median earnings advanced to $552 a week, up 3.4 percent from a yesr earlier. Other fourth quarter 1986 highlights follow.

—Three-fourths of the nation's 63.5 million families continued to have at least one member employed full time. The number of such families was 450,000 higher than a year earlier. (See tables A and 1.)

—About 5.8 million families had an unemployed member. However, in 7 out of 10 of these families, at least one other member was employed. (See tables A and 3.)

—Two-thirds of the over-the-year increase in the number of families with employed members was among families maintained by women. The proportion of families maintained by women that included at least one employed member rose to 69 percent. The comparable proportion among married-couple families remsined unchanged at 83 percent. (See table 2.)

—In families with children under 18, the number with mothers employed rose by 520,000 over the year. Most of this employment increase was among single-parent mothers. Both parents were employed in nearly 14 million families, including 62 percent of the families with school-age children (only) and 51 percent of those with one or more preschoolers. (See table 4.)

—Median earnings for families with two or more wage and salary workers continued to be twice those of families with only one earner--$728 versus $347 per week. Regardless of the number of earners, the median varied considerably by family type, as well as by race and Hispanic origin. Median earnings of married couples ($616) were nearly twice those of families maintained by women ($316). Earnings of black and Hispanic families were about 70 percent of the median for white families. (See tsble 6.)

Annual Averages for 1985 and 1986

In addition to the data for the fourth quarter of 1986, this release presents three tables of 1985 and 1986 annual averages on family employment and weekly earnings. (See tables 8 through 10.)

Table A. Summary labor force characteristics of families, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Number in thousands)

Characteristic	IV 1985	IV 1986	Change
Total families	62,915	63,518	603
With employed member(s)	50,827	51,476	649
Percent of total families	80.8	81.0	.2
With member(s) employed full time	46,974	47,420	446
Percent of total families	74.7	74.7	0
With unemployed member(s)	5,890	5,780	-110
Percent with employed member(s)	69.9	70.0	.1
Percent of total families	9.4	9.1	-.3
With unemployed member(s), none employed	1,771	1,735	-36
Percent of total families	2.8	2.7	-.1
With no members in labor force	10,317	10,307	-10
Percent with no members under 60 years old	61.3	61.7	.4
Percent of total families	16.4	16.2	-.2
With children under 18 years old	31,416	31,608	192
Percent with employed parent(s)	88.1	88.5	.4
Percent with employed mother	58.0	59.3	1.3
Percent of total families	49.9	49.8	-.1
With children under 6 years old	14,268	14,437	169
Percent with employed parent(s)	86.6	86.9	.3
Percent with employed mother	50.6	51.7	1.1
Percent of total families	22.7	22.7	0

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The estimates in this release were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), which provides basic information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment. The survey is conducted monthly for the Bureau of Labor Statistics by the Bureau of the Census from a scientifically selected national sample of households, with coverage in all 50 States and the District of Columbia. The size of the monthly sample is about 59,500 households. The earnings data are collected from one-quarter of the CPS monthly sample and are limited to wages and salaries. The data, therefore, exclude self-employment income.

Reliability

In any sample survey, variations in the data can occur by chance because a sample, rather than the whole of the population, is surveyed. The standard error is a measure of such potential variation. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the survey differs from a figure that would be obtained from a complete census by less than one standard error. The chances are about 90 out of 100 that such a difference would be less than 1.6 standard errors. All statements of comparisons in the text of this release are significant at 1.6 or more standard errors.

Standard errors for numbers and proportions of families can be approximated using tables found in the Household Data section of the Explanatory Notes in Employment and Earnings. Representative standard errors for median family earnings are available from BLS upon request.

Definitions

The principal definitions used in this release are described briefly below.

Family. A family is a group of two or more persons residing together who are related by blood, marriage, or adoption. The count of families is for "primary" families only, that is, the householder and all other persons related to and residing with the householder. Not included are unrelated subfamilies. Families are classified either as married-couple families or families maintained by women or men without spouses.

Householder. A householder is the person in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented.

Children. Children are defined as "own" children, that is, never-married sons, daughters, step-children, and adopted children. Excluded are other related children, such as nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and cousins, and unrelated children.

Employed. Employed persons are those who during the survey week: (a) Did any work at all as paid civilians; (b) worked in their own business or profession or on their own farms; or (c) worked 15 hours or more as an unpaid worker in a family operated enterprise. Also included are those who were temporarily absent from their jobs because of illness, vacation, bad weather, labor-management disputes, or personal reasons.

Full-time workers. Persons who usually work 35 hours or more per week on their sole or principal job. Persons who work less than 35 hours are part-time workers.

Unemployed. The unemployed are persons who had no employment during the survey week, were available for work at that time and made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the prior 4 weeks. Persons laid off from their former jobs and awaiting recall and those expecting to report to a job within 30 days need not be looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

Civilian labor force. The civilian labor force is the sum of the employed and the unemployed.

Wage and salary workers. Workers who receive wages, salaries, commissions, tips, payment in kind, or piece rates. Persons who report themselves as self-employed, including those whose businesses are incorporated, are excluded from coverage in these earnings data.

Usual weekly earnings. Data on usual weekly earnings are provided from responses to the question, "How much does...USUALLY earn per week at this job before deductions? Include any overtime pay, commissions, or tips usually received." The response is for the worker's sole or principal job, and the term "usual" is as perceived by the respondent. If the respondent asks for a definition of "usual," interviewers are instructed to define the term as more than half the weeks worked during the past 4 or 5 months.

Median weekly earnings. The median of weekly earnings is the value at which 50 percent of the earnings distribution lies above and 50 percent lies below. The estimating procedure places each reported earnings value into intervals which are centered around multiples of $50. The actual value is calculated through linear interpolation of the interval in which the median lies.

Over-the-year changes in the medians for component groups may not necessarily be consistent with the changes estimated for the overall median and therefore are not presented in this release. Circumstances under which this can occur include: (1) Even though medians of component groups may rise, if the lower-earnings group accounts for a sufficiently increased share of the total, the overall median can rise less than for any of the groups; and (2) survey observations tend to be clustered at rounded values, such as $250, $300, and $400, and an estimated median lying in a $50-wide centered interval containing such a cluster changes more slowly than one in non-clustered intervals. For example, if the medians for component groups are not in a cluster but the overall group median is, then the increase in the overall median will be less than for the components.

Table 1. Families by employment status of members, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	IV 1985	IV 1986	IV 1985	IV 1986
TOTAL				
Total families	62,915	63,518	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	10,317	10,307	16.4	16.2
With at least one member in the labor force	52,598	53,211	83.6	83.8
No member employed	1,771	1,735	2.8	2.7
Some member employed	50,827	51,476	80.8	81.0
No one unemployed	46,708	47,431	74.2	74.7
One or more employed full time	43,401	43,949	69.0	69.2
Some member unemployed	4,119	4,045	6.5	6.4
One or more employed full time	3,573	3,471	5.7	5.5
White				
Total families	54,402	54,832	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	8,724	8,762	16.0	16.0
With at least one member in the labor force	45,678	46,070	84.0	84.0
No member employed	1,198	1,196	2.2	2.2
Some member employed	44,480	44,873	81.8	81.8
No one unemployed	41,238	41,664	75.8	76.0
One or more employed full time	38,426	38,781	70.6	70.7
Some member unemployed	3,242	3,209	6.0	5.9
One or more employed full time	2,827	2,754	5.2	5.0
Black				
Total families	6,913	6,975	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	1,390	1,352	20.1	19.4
With at least one member in the labor force	5,524	5,624	79.9	80.6
No member employed	509	496	7.4	7.1
Some member employed	5,015	5,127	72.5	73.5
No one unemployed	4,267	4,417	61.7	63.3
One or more employed full time	3,857	3,918	55.8	56.2
Some member unemployed	748	710	10.8	10.2
One or more employed full time	638	606	9.2	8.7
Hispanic origin				
Total families	([1])	4,250	([1])	100.0
With no members in the labor force	([1])	626	([1])	14.7
With at least one member in the labor force	([1])	3,624	([1])	85.3
No member employed	([1])	217	([1])	5.1
Some member employed	([1])	3,407	([1])	80.2
No one unemployed	([1])	3,000	([1])	70.6
One or more employed full time	([1])	2,751	([1])	64.7
Some member unemployed	([1])	407	([1])	9.6
One or more employed full time	([1])	338	([1])	8.0

[1] Data on Hispanic families for 1985 are not available on a revised basis that reflects the adjustments to the population totals introduced in January 1986.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 2. Families by employment status of members and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	IV 1985	IV 1986	IV 1985	IV 1986
Married-couple families	50,424	50,625	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	7,487	7,557	14.8	14.9
With at least one member in the labor force	42,937	43,068	85.2	85.1
No member employed	881	830	1.7	1.6
Some member employed	42,056	42,237	83.4	83.4
Husband only	11,898	11,695	23.6	23.1
Wife only	2,332	2,482	4.6	4.9
Husband and wife	23,542	23,973	46.7	47.4
Husband and wife only	18,705	18,999	37.1	37.5
Other combinations	4,284	4,087	8.5	8.1
Families maintained by women	10,055	10,450	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	2,527	2,464	25.1	23.6
With at least one member in the labor force	7,528	7,986	74.9	76.4
No member employed	742	769	7.4	7.4
Some member employed	6,786	7,217	67.5	69.1
Householder employed	5,492	5,896	54.6	56.4
Householder only	3,503	3,759	34.8	36.0
Householder and other(s)	1,989	2,137	19.8	20.4
Other combinations	1,294	1,321	12.9	12.6
Families maintained by men	2,436	2,444	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	303	286	12.4	11.7
With at least one member in the labor force	2,134	2,158	87.6	88.3
No member employed	148	136	6.1	5.6
Some member employed	1,985	2,022	81.5	82.7
Householder employed	1,697	1,730	69.7	70.8
Householder only	912	930	37.4	38.1
Householder and other(s)	785	800	32.2	32.7
Other combinations	288	292	11.8	11.9

Table 3. Families with unemployed members by type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	IV 1985	IV 1986	IV 1985	IV 1986
Families with unemployment	5,890	5,780	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	4,119	4,045	69.9	70.0
With no members employed	1,771	1,735	30.1	30.0
Married-couple families	4,139	4,014	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	3,258	3,184	78.7	79.3
With no members employed	881	830	21.3	20.7
With husband unemployed	1,529	1,601	36.9	39.9
Wife employed	778	905	18.8	22.5
Other(s) employed	98	78	2.4	1.9
No one employed	652	618	15.8	15.4
With wife unemployed	1,198	1,098	28.9	27.4
Husband employed	1,095	1,005	26.5	25.0
Other(s) employed	17	19	.4	.5
No one employed	86	74	2.1	1.8
With other member(s) unemployed	1,412	1,315	34.1	32.8
Families maintained by women	1,405	1,450	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	663	681	47.2	47.0
With no members employed	742	769	52.8	53.0
With householder unemployed	613	615	43.6	42.4
Other(s) employed	102	102	7.3	7.0
No one employed	511	513	36.4	35.4
With other member(s) unemployed	792	835	56.4	57.6
Families maintained by men	347	316	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	198	180	57.1	57.0
With no members employed	148	136	42.7	43.0
With householder unemployed	146	130	42.1	41.1
Other(s) employed	41	39	11.8	12.3
No one employed	105	91	30.3	28.8
With other member(s) unemployed	201	186	57.9	58.9

Table 4. Families with children under 18 years old by the employment status of parent(s) and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(In thousands)

Characteristic	IV 1985			IV 1986		
	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old
Total families	31,416	17,148	14,268	31,608	17,171	14,437
Married-couple families	24,386	12,802	11,584	24,246	12,564	11,682
With employed parent(s)	23,309	12,238	11,071	23,244	12,091	11,153
Neither unemployed	22,070	11,603	10,467	22,018	11,459	10,559
Father employed	7,984	3,480	4,504	7,799	3,311	4,488
Mother employed	413	287	126	468	327	141
Both employed	13,673	7,836	5,837	13,751	7,821	5,930
One unemployed	1,239	635	604	1,226	632	594
Father unemployed	483	267	216	550	290	260
Mother unemployed	756	368	388	676	342	334
With no employed parent	1,077	564	513	1,002	474	528
Father unemployed	381	140	240	355	110	245
Mother unemployed	39	28	11	26	14	11
Both unemployed	115	43	72	113	47	66
Neither in labor force	542	353	190	508	303	206
Families maintained by women	6,134	3,754	2,380	6,412	3,976	2,437
Mother employed	3,637	2,594	1,043	3,959	2,824	1,135
Mother not employed	2,496	1,160	1,336	2,453	1,151	1,301
Unemployed	524	258	266	532	285	246
Not in labor force	1,972	902	1,070	1,921	866	1,055
Families maintained by men	897	592	304	950	631	319
Father employed	729	486	243	782	520	262
Father not employed	168	106	61	168	111	58
Unemployed	81	43	38	68	35	33
Not in labor force	87	63	23	100	76	25
Total families with unemployed parents	2,379	1,147	1,231	2,320	1,123	1,195

Table 5. Employment status of persons in families by family relationship, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	IV 1985					IV 1986				
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed			Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed		
			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)
TOTAL										
In families	145,946	65.4	6,505	6.8	67.5	146,988	65.8	6,365	6.6	67.8
In married-couple families	122,153	66.1	4,539	5.6	75.9	122,598	66.4	4,405	5.4	76.7
Husbands	50,424	78.7	1,529	3.9	57.3	50,625	78.6	1,601	4.0	61.4
Wives	50,424	55.2	1,356	4.9	83.3	50,625	55.9	1,253	4.4	83.0
Other family member(s)	21,305	62.1	1,654	12.5	87.1	21,348	62.3	1,551	11.7	87.4
In families maintained by women	18,798	59.9	1,579	14.0	46.2	19,437	61.3	1,600	13.4	46.2
Householder	10,055	60.7	613	10.0	16.6	10,450	62.3	615	9.4	16.5
Other family member(s)	8,743	58.9	966	18.8	65.0	8,987	60.2	985	18.2	64.8
In families maintained by men	4,995	67.8	387	11.4	55.0	4,953	68.6	361	10.6	54.6
Householder	2,436	75.7	146	7.9	27.9	2,444	76.1	130	7.0	29.9
Other family member(s)	2,559	60.3	241	15.6	71.4	2,509	61.2	231	15.0	68.4
White										
In families	126,113	65.8	4,785	5.8	70.7	126,728	66.2	4,762	5.7	70.7
In married-couple families	109,602	66.1	3,694	5.1	76.5	109,764	66.3	3,642	5.0	76.9
Husbands	45,625	78.8	1,263	3.5	57.7	45,738	78.5	1,341	3.7	60.9
Wives	45,585	54.4	1,144	4.6	84.4	45,733	55.1	1,051	-4.2	83.7
Other family member(s)	18,392	63.4	1,287	11.0	88.0	18,293	63.9	1,250	10.7	88.2
In families maintained by women	12,591	61.8	813	10.4	48.6	13,120	63.7	867	10.4	48.8
Householder	6,841	61.6	338	8.0	21.1	7,182	63.6	332	7.3	19.1
Other family member(s)	5,750	62.0	475	13.3	68.2	5,938	63.9	535	14.1	67.3
In families maintained by men	3,920	69.4	278	10.2	57.9	3,844	70.4	252	9.3	56.3
Householder	1,935	77.3	109	7.3	28.3	1,910	77.9	89	6.0	30.7
Other family member(s)	1,985	61.7	169	13.8	77.3	1,934	62.9	163	13.4	70.8
Black										
In families	15,688	62.4	1,504	15.4	57.5	15,856	62.7	1,412	14.2	57.7
In married-couple families	9,114	66.5	685	11.3	73.9	9,219	66.8	618	10.0	76.4
Husbands	3,546	76.5	213	7.9	56.7	3,562	77.2	197	7.2	63.4
Wives	3,467	63.0	167	7.7	78.2	3,453	64.0	161	7.3	80.7
Other family member(s)	2,101	55.4	305	26.2	83.2	2,204	54.3	260	21.7	83.4
In families maintained by women	5,715	55.9	731	22.9	43.6	5,725	56.1	695	21.6	42.6
Householder	2,970	59.0	258	14.7	10.7	2,983	59.1	271	15.4	12.9
Other family member(s)	2,745	52.5	473	32.8	61.5	2,742	52.8	424	29.3	61.6
In families maintained by men	859	61.4	86	16.3	47.7	912	62.3	98	17.3	48.0
Householder	407	68.3	27	9.7	(1)	445	69.0	37	12.0	(1)
Other family member(s)	452	55.3	59	23.8	(1)	467	55.9	61	23.3	59.0
Hispanic origin										
In families	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	10,382	63.9	702	10.6	63.3
In married-couple families	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	7,938	66.0	502	9.6	70.3
Husbands	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	2,949	86.2	210	8.2	49.8
Wives	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	3,078	50.8	112	7.2	77.7
Other family member(s)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	1,911	59.2	180	15.9	90.0
In families maintained by women	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	1,924	52.7	148	14.6	40.5
Householder	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	1,053	51.1	69	12.8	23.3
Other family member(s)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	871	54.7	79	16.5	56.4
In families maintained by men	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	520	74.8	52	13.4	(1)
Householder	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	246	83.9	19	9.2	(1)
Other family member(s)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	274	66.7	33	18.2	(1)

[1] Data not shown where base is less than 60,000.

[2] Data on Hispanic families for 1985 are not available on a revised basis that reflects the adjustments to the population totals introduced in January 1986.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	IV 1985	IV 1986	IV 1985	IV 1986	IV 1985	IV 1986
TOTAL						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	41,775	42,337	100.0	100.0	$534	$552
One earner	18,177	18,657	43.5	44.1	333	347
Two or more earners	23,597	23,680	56.5	55.9	705	728
Married-couple families	33,741	33,735	100.0	100.0	594	616
One earner	12,840	12,930	38.1	38.3	385	397
Husband	9,862	9,755	29.2	28.9	446	473
Wife	2,185	2,399	6.5	7.1	211	218
Other family member	793	776	2.4	2.3	202	217
Two or more earners	20,901	20,806	61.9	61.7	729	757
Husband and wife only	14,915	14,888	44.2	44.1	698	723
Husband, wife, and other family member(s)	3,270	3,389	9.7	10.0	950	992
Husband and other family member(s)	2,091	1,869	6.2	5.5	709	737
Wife and other family member(s)	475	466	1.4	1.4	446	482
Other family members only	150	193	.4	.6	535	463
Families maintained by women	6,330	6,834	100.0	100.0	304	316
One earner	4,343	4,682	68.6	68.5	238	251
Householder	3,418	3,746	54.0	54.8	247	258
Other family member	926	936	14.6	13.7	199	216
Two or more earners	1,987	2,152	31.4	31.5	495	500
Families maintained by men	1,703	1,767	100.0	100.0	448	439
One earner	994	1,046	58.3	59.2	347	327
Householder	785	844	46.1	47.7	391	351
Other family member	209	202	12.3	11.4	212	215
Two or more earners	709	721	41.7	40.8	820	635
White						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	36,005	36,156	100.0	100.0	558	576
One earner	15,389	15,569	42.7	43.1	360	372
Two or more earners	20,618	20,587	57.3	56.9	718	742
Married-couple families	30,170	29,919	100.0	100.0	603	627
One earner	11,828	11,548	38.5	38.6	397	408
Husband	9,070	8,813	30.1	29.5	460	482
Wife	1,863	2,054	8.2	6.9	212	220
Two or more earners	18,542	18,371	81.5	81.4	738	768
Husband and wife only	13,156	13,087	43.6	43.7	707	732
Families maintained by women	4,501	4,872	100.0	100.0	325	331
One earner	2,990	3,232	66.4	66.3	250	263
Two or more earners	1,512	1,640	33.8	33.7	502	509
Families maintained by men	1,334	1,385	100.0	100.0	473	466
One earner	771	789	57.8	57.8	372	352
Two or more earners	562	576	42.2	42.2	637	647
Black						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	4,713	4,906	100.0	100.0	378	399
One earner	2,337	2,545	49.8	51.9	230	241
Two or more earners	2,377	2,360	50.4	48.1	587	604
Married-couple families	2,700	2,817	100.0	100.0	491	514
One earner	869	1,015	32.2	36.0	249	269
Husband	536	652	19.9	23.2	287	305
Wife	255	295	9.5	10.5	201	195
Two or more earners	1,832	1,802	67.8	64.0	619	643
Husband and wife only	1,383	1,337	51.2	47.5	597	627
Families maintained by women	1,709	1,769	100.0	100.0	256	273
One earner	1,276	1,320	74.7	74.6	213	218
Two or more earners	433	449	25.3	25.4	457	468
Families maintained by men	304	319	100.0	100.0	382	364
One earner	192	210	63.1	66.0	309	260
Two or more earners	112	109	36.9	34.0	486	516

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	IV 1985	IV 1986	IV 1985	IV 1986	IV 1985	IV 1986
Hispanic origin						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	(2)	3,089	(2)	100.0	(2)	$411
One earner	(2)	1,459	(2)	47.2	(2)	264
Two or more earners	(2)	1,630	(2)	52.8	(2)	570
Married-couple families	(2)	2,292	(2)	100.0	(2)	468
One earner	(2)	949	(2)	41.4	(2)	284
Husband	(2)	775	(2)	33.8	(2)	304
Wife	(2)	127	(2)	5.5	(2)	200
Two or more earners	(2)	1,343	(2)	58.6	(2)	598
Husband and wife only	(2)	852	(2)	37.2	(2)	586
Families maintained by women	(2)	601	(2)	100.0	(2)	277
One earner	(2)	413	(2)	68.7	(2)	214
Two or more earners	(2)	188	(2)	31.3	(2)	437
Families maintained by men	(2)	196	(2)	100.0	(2)	370
One earner	(2)	96	(2)	49.2	(2)	(3)
Two or more earners	(2)	100	(2)	50.8	(2)	494

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

[2] Data on Hispanic families for 1985 are not available on a revised basis that reflects the adjustments to the population totals introduced in January 1986.

[3] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 7. Families with unemployed members and wage and salary earners by type of family and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	IV 1985	IV 1986	IV 1985	IV 1986	IV 1985	IV 1986
Families with unemployment and wage and salary earners[1]	3,663	3,672	--	--	$350	$352
Married-couple families	2,818	2,870	100.0	100.0	379	370
Husband unemployed	778	952	27.6	33.2	213	242
Wife only earner	617	763	21.9	26.6	203	227
Wife and other earner(s)	95	108	3.4	3.8	(2)	492
Other earners only	66	81	2.3	2.8	(2)	(2)
Wife unemployed	987	948	35.0	33.0	393	396
Husband only earner	830	795	29.4	27.7	348	371
Husband and other earner(s)	145	130	5.2	4.5	610	584
Other earners only	11	23	.4	.8	(2)	(2)
Other members unemployed	1,053	970	37.4	33.8	542	599
Husband or wife earners	442	428	15.7	14.9	409	434
Husband and wife earners	542	500	19.2	17.4	748	768
Other combinations of earners	70	42	2.5	1.5	(2)	(2)
Families maintained by women	638	614	100.0	100.0	265	284
Householder unemployed	89	76	14.0	12.4	(2)	(2)
Other member(s) unemployed	549	537	86.0	87.6	265	303
Families maintained by men	207	188	100.0	100.0	334	337
Householder unemployed	41	47	19.6	25.2	(2)	(2)
Other member(s) unemployed	167	141	80.4	74.8	427	417

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

Table 8. Families by employment status of members and type of family, annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	1985	1986	1985	1986
Married-couple families	49,991	50,235	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	7,466	7,522	14.9	15.0
With at least one member in the labor force	42,526	42,713	85.1	85.0
No member employed	920	899	1.8	1.8
Some member employed	41,606	41,814	83.2	83.2
Husband only	12,274	11,862	24.6	23.6
Wife only	2,368	2,467	4.7	4.9
Husband and wife	22,550	23,173	45.1	46.1
Husband and wife only	17,761	18,163	35.5	36.2
Other combinations	4,414	4,312	8.8	8.6
Families maintained by women	10,122	10,364	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	2,484	2,491	24.5	24.0
With at least one member in the labor force	7,638	7,873	75.5	76.0
No member employed	801	783	7.9	7.6
Some member employed	6,837	7,091	67.5	68.4
Householder employed	5,540	5,763	54.7	55.6
Householder only	3,463	3,593	34.2	34.7
Householder and other(s)	2,077	2,170	20.5	20.9
Other combinations	1,297	1,328	12.8	12.8
Families maintained by men	2,395	2,521	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	281	297	11.7	11.8
With at least one member in the labor force	2,114	2,224	88.3	88.2
No member employed	144	148	6.0	5.9
Some member employed	1,970	2,076	82.3	82.3
Householder employed	1,680	1,777	70.1	70.5
Householder only	913	963	38.1	38.2
Householder and other(s)	767	814	32.0	32.3
Other combinations	290	299	12.1	11.9

Table 9. Families with children under 18 years old by the employment status of parent(s) and type of family, annual averages

(In thousands)

Characteristic	1985			1986		
	Total	With children 8 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old
Total families	31,158	17,003	14,155	31,521	17,123	14,399
Married-couple families	24,080	12,587	11,494	24,207	12,578	11,629
With employed parent(s)	22,954	12,004	10,951	23,085	12,011	11,075
Neither unemployed	21,684	11,370	10,315	21,835	11,385	10,452
Father employed	8,349	3,630	4,719	8,090	3,467	4,624
Mother employed	429	302	127	464	322	143
Both employed	12,906	7,438	5,469	13,281	7,596	5,685
One unemployed	1,270	634	636	1,250	627	623
Father unemployed	504	265	239	543	291	252
Mother unemployed	766	369	397	707	336	371
With no employed parent	1,125	582	543	1,122	567	554
Father unemployed	393	138	254	404	140	264
Mother unemployed	40	27	14	40	25	15
Both unemployed	118	52	66	117	54	62
Neither in labor force	574	365	209	561	348	213
Families maintained by women	6,147	3,800	2,346	8,327	3,888	2,439
Mother employed	3,647	2,820	1,027	3,821	2,700	1,121
Mother not employed	2,499	1,180	1,319	2,506	1,188	1,318
Unemployed	542	292	250	538	287	251
Not in labor force	1,957	888	1,069	1,968	901	1,067
Families maintained by men	931	616	316	987	656	331
Father employed	766	507	258	804	537	267
Father not employed	166	108	58	183	119	64
Unemployed	79	45	34	82	44	38
Not in labor force	87	63	24	101	75	26
Total families with unemployed parents	2,442	1,188	1,254	2,431	1,177	1,253

Table 10. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986
TOTAL						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	41,616	42,101	100.0	100.0	$522	$543
One earner	18,775	18,789	45.1	44.6	333	343
Two or more earners	22,841	23,312	54.9	55.4	692	717
Married-couple families	33,459	33,569	100.0	100.0	582	606
One earner	13,347	13,049	39.9	38.9	385	393
Husband	10,346	9,979	30.9	29.7	440	459
Wife	2,243	2,351	6.7	7.0	217	223
Other family member	758	719	2.3	2.1	204	210
Two or more earners	20,112	20,520	60.1	61.1	715	744
Husband and wife only	14,019	14,347	41.9	42.7	684	712
Husband, wife, and other family member(s)	3,242	3,397	9.7	10.1	940	975
Husband and other family member(s)	2,159	2,056	6.5	6.1	689	720
Wife and other family member(s)	514	532	1.5	1.6	454	480
Other family members only	176	188	.5	.6	468	469
Families maintained by women	6,470	6,718	100.0	100.0	297	307
One earner	4,397	4,607	68.0	68.6	234	242
Householder	3,432	3,606	53.0	53.7	243	251
Other family member	965	1,001	14.9	14.9	200	205
Two or more earners	2,073	2,110	32.0	31.4	487	499
Families maintained by men	1,688	1,814	100.0	100.0	450	444
One earner	1,031	1,133	61.1	62.4	346	351
Householder	809	900	47.9	49.6	390	383
Other family member	222	232	13.2	12.8	212	220
Two or more earners	656	681	38.9	37.6	625	637
White						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	35,848	36,072	100.0	100.0	543	566
One earner	15,972	15,761	44.6	43.7	357	367
Two or more earners	19,876	20,311	55.4	56.3	702	730
Married-couple families	29,899	29,865	100.0	100.0	589	615
One earner	12,097	11,698	40.5	39.2	395	405
Husband	9,496	9,077	31.8	30.4	452	472
Wife	1,925	1,996	6.4	6.7	218	225
Two or more earners	17,802	18,167	59.5	60.8	723	755
Husband and wife only	12,394	12,656	41.5	42.4	691	720
Families maintained by women	4,616	4,786	100.0	100.0	311	320
One earner	3,068	3,190	66.5	66.6	244	252
Two or more earners	1,548	1,597	33.5	33.4	497	502
Families maintained by men	1,333	1,420	100.0	100.0	475	476
One earner	806	873	60.5	61.5	369	375
Two or more earners	526	547	39.5	38.5	637	668
Black						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	4,668	4,810	100.0	100.0	378	391
One earner	2,334	2,495	50.0	51.9	235	240
Two or more earners	2,334	2,315	50.0	48.1	582	605
Married-couple families	2,671	2,734	100.0	100.0	487	503
One earner	902	978	33.8	35.8	257	267
Husband	580	615	21.7	22.5	292	307
Wife	257	289	9.6	10.6	206	209
Two or more earners	1,769	1,755	66.2	64.2	622	645
Husband and wife only	1,258	1,269	47.1	46.4	603	628
Families maintained by women	1,703	1,756	100.0	100.0	259	267
One earner	1,242	1,301	72.9	74.1	213	216
Two or more earners	461	455	27.1	25.9	448	478
Families maintained by men	294	320	100.0	100.0	360	348
One earner	191	215	64.9	67.2	294	287
Two or more earners	103	105	35.1	32.8	521	500

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 10. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, annual averages—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986
Hispanic origin						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	(2)	3,017	(2)	100.0	(2)	$412
One earner	(2)	1,477	(2)	48.9	(2)	267
Two or more earners	(2)	1,540	(2)	51.1	(2)	582
Married-couple families	(2)	2,272	(2)	100.0	(2)	459
One earner	(2)	1,006	(2)	44.3	(2)	289
Husband	(2)	828	(2)	36.4	(2)	308
Wife	(2)	127	(2)	5.6	(2)	202
Two or more earners	(2)	1,266	(2)	55.7	(2)	603
Husband and wife only	(2)	809	(2)	35.6	(2)	582
Families maintained by women	(2)	538	(2)	100.0	(2)	273
One earner	(2)	368	(2)	68.3	(2)	212
Two or more earners	(2)	170	(2)	31.7	(2)	446
Families maintained by men	(2)	207	(2)	100.0	(2)	380
One earner	(2)	103	(2)	49.9	(2)	259
Two or more earners	(2)	104	(2)	50.1	(2)	530

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

[2] Data on Hispanic families for 1985 are not available on a revised basis that reflects the adjustments to the population totals introduced in January 1986.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

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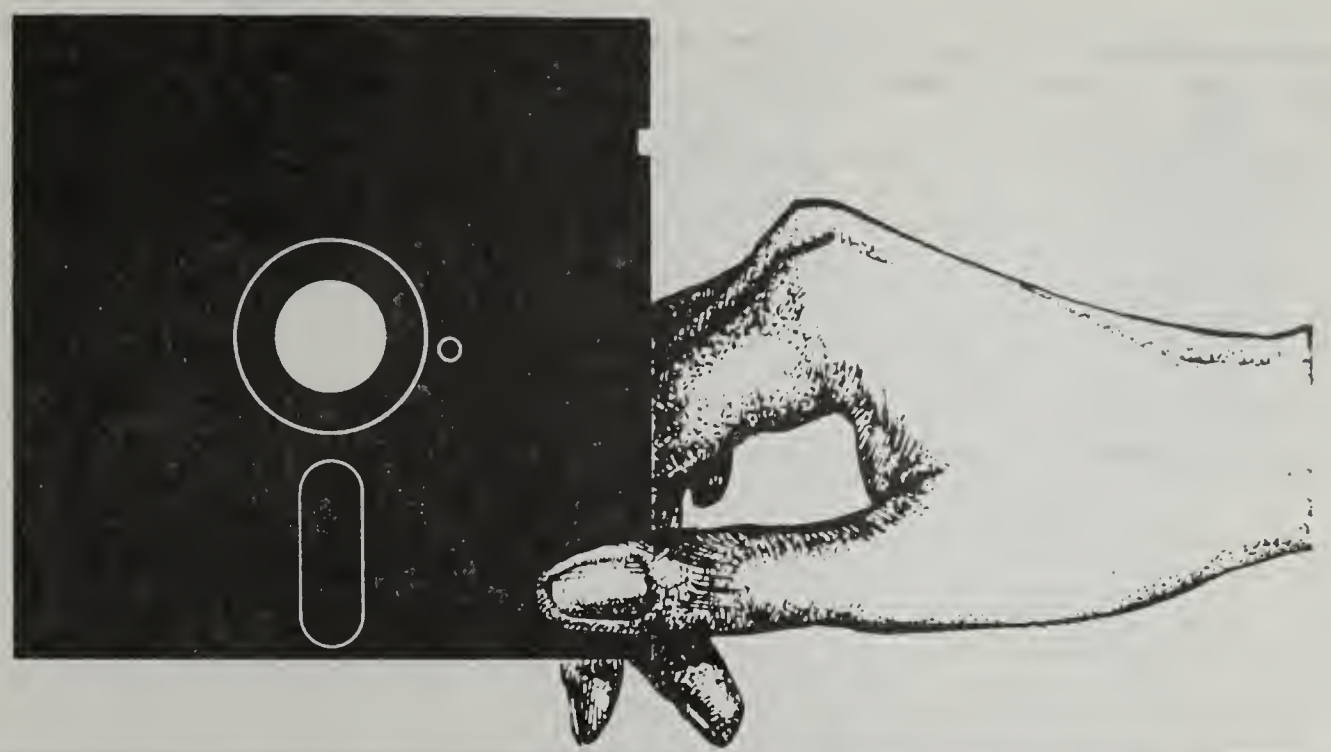

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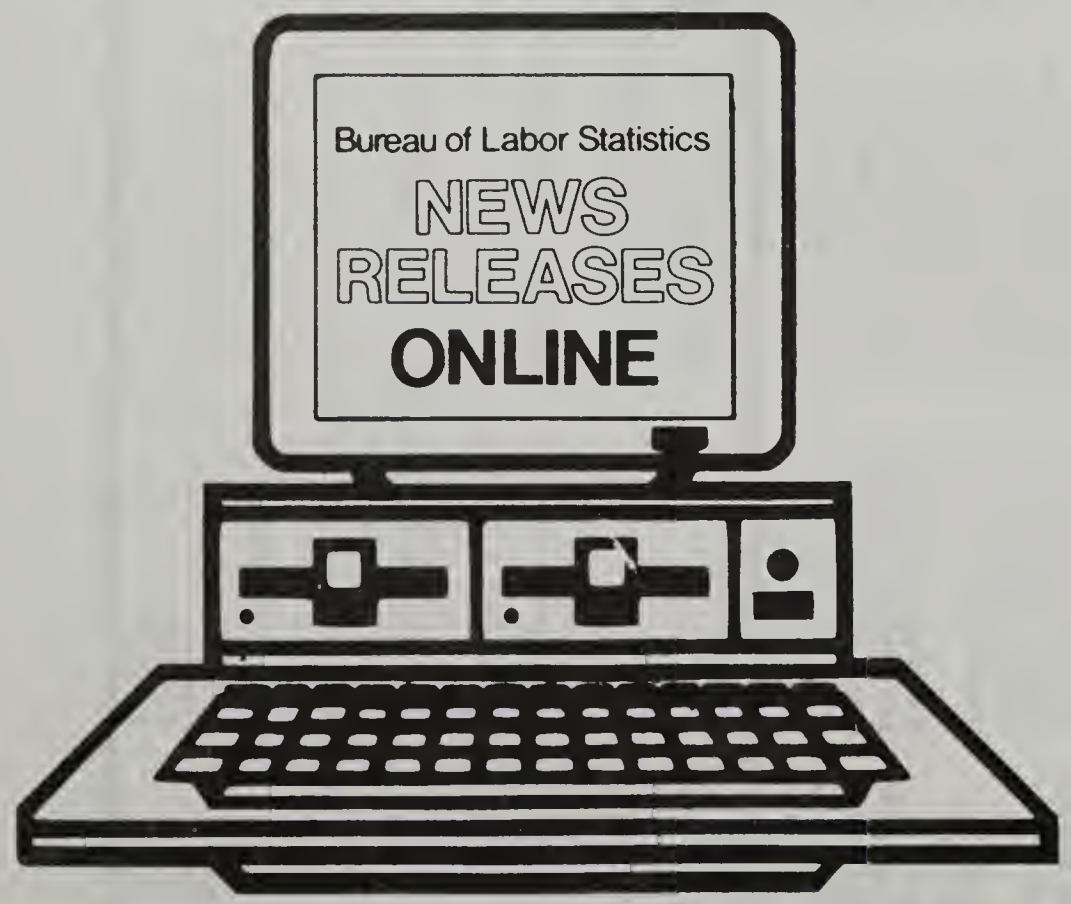

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EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES: SECOND QUARTER 1986

About 50.8 million of the nation's 62.9 million families had at least one employed member in the second quarter, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. This was 460,000 more than a year earlier. Over the same period, there was little change in unemployment in families. Other second-quarter highlights are:

--About 81 percent of the nation's families had at least one employed household member, unchanged from a year earlier. This proportion was higher among white than black families--82 versus 74 percent. Ten percent of the families had at least one unemployed member, with the black proportion over twice that of whites. (See tables A and 1.)

--The number of married-couple families with both spouses employed continued to climb, reaching 22.9 million (46 percent of all married couples) in the second quarter. Although married couples accounted for the largest share of the rise in families with employment, 44 percent of the rise was comprised of families maintained by men or women (with no spouse present). (See table 2.)

--About 9 percent of married-couple families had an unemployed member, compared with 15 percent of the families maintained by women. In 8 of 10 of these married-couple families, the impact of this unemployment was cushioned by the presence of an employed member, while slightly less than half of the families maintained by women were in this position. (See table 3.)

--Nearly six-tenths of the 24.2 million wives with children under 18 were employed in the second quarter, up 560,000 from the year before. Mothers of preschoolers accounted for 56 percent of the increase. (See table 4.)

--Median wage and salary earnings for families were $537 a week in the second quarter. The figures ranged from $740 for married-couple families with two or more earners to $241 for families maintained by women with only one earner. Black family earnings of $399 a week were 72 percent of the

median for whites ($558). Part of this difference was due to the high proportion of black families that were maintained by women. Such families accounted for about 35 percent of wage-earning black families but only 14 percent of the white families. (See table 6.)

Table A. Summary labor force characteristics of families, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	II 1985	II 1986	Change
Total families	62,299	62,917	618
With employed member(s)	50,336	50,794	458
Percent of total families	80.8	80.7	-.1
With member(s) employed full time	46,522	46,778	256
Percent of total families	74.7	74.3	-.4
With unemployed member(s)	6,256	6,310	54
Percent with employed member(s)	70.6	71.2	.6
Percent of total families	10.0	10.0	-
With unemployed member(s), none employed	1,837	1,817	-20
Percent of total families	2.9	2.9	-
With no members in the labor force	10,126	10,306	180
Percent with no members under 60 years old	60.7	61.0	.3
Percent of total families	16.3	16.4	.1
With children under 18 years old	31,052	31,463	411
Percent with employed parent(s)	87.9	87.8	-.1
Percent with employed mother	55.5	56.8	1.3
Percent of total families	49.8	50.0	.2
With children under 6 years old	14,031	14,360	329
Percent with employed parent(s)	86.3	86.6	.3
Percent with employed mother	47.4	49.3	1.9
Percent of total families	22.5	22.8	.3

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The estimates in this release were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), which provides basic information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment. The survey is conducted monthly for the Bureau of Labor Statistics by the Bureau of the Census from a scientifically selected national sample of households, with coverage in all 50 States and the District of Columbia. The size of the monthly sample is about 59,500 households. The earnings data are collected from one-quarter of the CPS monthly sample and are limited to wages and salaries. The data, therefore, exclude self-employment income.

Reliability

In any sample survey, variations in the data can occur by chance because a sample, rather than the whole of the population, is surveyed. The standard error is a measure of such potential variation. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the survey differs from a figure that would be obtained from a complete census by less than one standard error. The chances are about 90 out of 100 that such a difference would be less than 1.6 standard errors. All statements of comparisons in the text of this release are significant at 1.6 or more standard errors.

Standard errors for numbers and proportions of families can be approximated using tables found in the Household Data section of the Explanatory Notes in Employment and Earnings. Representative standard errors for median family earnings are available from BLS upon request.

Definitions

The principal definitions used in this release are described briefly below.

Family. A family is a group of two or more persons residing together who are related by blood, marriage, or adoption. The count of families is for "primary" families only, that is, the householder and all other persons related to and residing with the householder. Not included are unrelated subfamilies. Families are classified either as married-couple families or families maintained by women or men without spouses.

Householder. A householder is the person in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented.

Children. Children are defined as "own" children, that is, never-married sons, daughters, step-children, and adopted children. Excluded are other related children, such as nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and cousins, and unrelated children.

Employed. Employed persons are those who during the survey week: (a) Did any work at all as paid civilians; (b) worked in their own business or profession or on their own farms; or (c) worked 15 hours or more as an unpaid worker in a family operated enterprise. Also included are those who were temporarily absent from their jobs because of illness, vacation, bad weather, labor-management disputes, or personal reasons.

Full-time workers. Persons who usually work 35 hours or more per week on their sole or principal job. Persons who work less than 35 hours are part-time workers.

Unemployed. The unemployed are persons who had no employment during the survey week, were available for work at that time and made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the prior 4 weeks. Persons laid off from their former jobs and awaiting recall and those expecting to report to a job within 30 days need not be looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

Civilian labor force. The civilian labor force is the sum of the employed and the unemployed.

Wage and salary workers. Workers who receive wages, salaries, commissions, tips, payment in kind, or piece rates. Persons who report themselves as self-employed, including those whose businesses are incorporated, are excluded from coverage in these earnings data.

Usual weekly earnings. Data on usual weekly earnings are provided from responses to the question, "How much does...USUALLY earn per week at this job before deductions? Include any overtime pay, commissions, or tips usually received." The response is for the worker's sole or principal job, and the term "usual" is as perceived by the respondent. If the respondent asks for a definition of "usual," interviewers are instructed to define the term as more than half the weeks worked during the past 4 or 5 months.

Median weekly earnings. The median of weekly earnings is the value at which 50 percent of the earnings distribution lies above and 50 percent lies below. The estimating procedure places each reported earnings value into intervals which are centered around multiples of $50. The actual value is calculated through linear interpolation of the interval in which the median lies.

Over-the-year changes in the medians for component groups may not necessarily be consistent with the changes estimated for the overall median and therefore are not presented in this release. Circumstances under which this can occur include: (1) Even though medians of component groups may rise, if the lower-earnings group accounts for a sufficiently increased share of the total, the overall median can rise less than for any of the groups; and (2) survey observations tend to be clustered at rounded values, such as $250, $300, and $400, and an estimated median lying in a $50-wide centered interval containing such a cluster changes more slowly than one in non-clustered intervals. For example, if the medians for component groups are not in a cluster but the overall group median is, then the increase in the overall median will be less than for the components.

Table 1. Families by employment status of members, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	II 1985	II 1986	II 1985	II 1986
TOTAL				
Total families	62,299	62,917	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	10,126	10,306	16.3	16.4
With at least one member in the labor force	52,174	52,611	83.7	83.6
No member employed	1,837	1,817	2.9	2.9
Some member employed	50,336	50,794	80.8	80.7
No one unemployed	45,917	46,301	73.7	73.6
One or more employed full time	42,637	42,820	68.4	68.1
Some member unemployed	4,419	4,493	7.1	7.1
One or more employed full time	3,885	3,958	6.2	6.3
White				
Total families	53,981	54,378	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	8,634	8,791	16.0	16.2
With at least one member in the labor force	45,347	45,587	84.0	83.6
No member employed	1,241	1,251	2.3	2.3
Some member employed	44,106	44,336	81.7	81.5
No one unemployed	40,602	40,821	75.2	75.1
One or more employed full time	37,829	37,863	70.1	69.6
Some member unemployed	3,504	3,515	6.5	6.5
One or more employed full time	3,098	3,105	5.7	5.7
Black				
Total families	6,744	6,857	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	1,297	1,301	19.2	19.0
With at least one member in the labor force	5,447	5,557	80.8	81.0
No member employed	536	509	7.9	7.4
Some member employed	4,911	5,048	72.8	73.6
No one unemployed	4,127	4,216	61.2	61.5
One or more employed full time	3,692	3,780	54.7	55.1
Some member unemployed	784	832	11.6	12.1
One or more employed full time	673	728	10.0	10.6
Hispanic origin				
Total families	(1)	4,227	(1)	100.0
With no members in the labor force	(1)	654	(1)	15.5
With at least one member in the labor force	(1)	3,573	(1)	84.5
No member employed	(1)	213	(1)	5.0
Some member employed	(1)	3,360	(1)	79.5
No one unemployed	(1)	2,958	(1)	70.0
One or more employed full time	(1)	2,685	(1)	63.5
Some member unemployed	(1)	402	(1)	9.5
One or more employed full time	(1)	349	(1)	8.3

[1] Data on Hispanic families for 1985 are not available on a revised basis that reflects the adjustments to the population totals introduced in January 1986.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 2. Families by employment status of members and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	II 1985	II 1986	II 1985	II 1986
Married-couple families	49,743	50,068	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	7,426	7,514	14.9	15.0
With at least one member in the labor force	42,317	42,553	85.1	85.0
No member employed	906	884	1.8	1.8
Some member employed	41,412	41,669	83.3	83.2
Husband only	12,474	11,963	25.1	23.9
Wife only	2,380	2,480	4.8	5.0
Husband and wife	22,181	22,908	44.6	45.8
Husband and wife only	17,377	17,814	34.9	35.6
Other combinations	4,377	4,318	8.8	6.6
Families maintained by women	10,169	10,332	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	2,426	2,477	23.9	24.0
With at least one member in the labor force	7,742	7,855	76.1	76.0
No member employed	797	782	7.6	7.6
Some member employed	6,946	7,072	68.3	68.4
Householder employed	5,640	5,744	55.5	55.6
Householder only	3,505	3,581	34.5	34.7
Householder and other(s)	2,135	2,183	21.0	20.9
Other combinations	1,306	1,328	12.8	12.9
Families maintained by men	2,388	2,517	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	274	315	11.5	12.5
With at least one member in the labor force	2,114	2,203	88.5	87.5
No member employed	135	150	5.7	6.0
Some member employed	1,979	2,053	82.9	81.6
Householder employed	1,707	1,750	71.5	69.5
Householder only	926	975	38.8	38.7
Householder and other(s)	781	775	32.7	30.8
Other combinations	272	303	11.4	12.0

Table 3. Families with unemployed members by type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	II 1985	II 1986	II 1985	II 1986
Families with unemployment	6,256	6,310	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	4,419	4,493	70.6	71.2
With no members employed	1,837	1,817	29.4	28.8
Married-couple families	4,388	4,397	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	3,483	3,513	79.4	79.9
With no members employed	906	884	20.6	20.1
With husband unemployed	1,561	1,603	35.6	36.5
Wife employed	814	855	18.6	19.4
Other(s) employed	83	82	1.9	1.9
No one employed	664	666	15.1	15.1
With wife unemployed	1,216	1,147	27.7	26.1
Husband employed	1,099	1,039	25.0	23.6
Other(s) employed	18	24	.4	.5
No one employed	99	84	2.3	1.9
With other member(s) unemployed	1,611	1,647	36.7	37.5
Families maintained by women	1,562	1,536	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	765	753	49.0	49.0
With no members employed	797	782	51.0	50.9
With householder unemployed	645	616	41.3	40.1
Other(s) employed	120	103	7.7	6.7
No one employed	525	513	33.6	33.4
With other member(s) unemployed	917	920	58.7	59.9
Families maintained by men	306	378	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	171	227	55.9	60.1
With no members employed	135	150	44.1	39.7
With householder unemp'oyed	139	164	45.4	43.4
Other(s) employed	44	50	14.4	13.2
No one employed	95	114	31.0	30.2
With other member(s) unemployed	167	214	54.6	56.6

Table 4. Families with children under 18 years old by the employment status of parent(s) and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(In thousands)

Characteristic	II 1985			II 1986		
	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old
Total families	31,052	17,020	14,031	31,463	17,102	14,360
Married-couple families	23,880	12,491	11,388	24,170	12,569	11,601
With employed parent(s)	22,773	11,945	10,829	23,012	11,970	11,041
Neither unemployed	21,571	11,350	10,221	21,839	11,392	10,448
Father employed	8,539	3,723	4,816	8,275	3,542	4,734
Mother employed	434	305	129	468	316	152
Both employed	12,598	7,322	5,276	13,096	7,534	5,562
One unemployed	1,203	595	609	1,173	579	593
Father unemployed	479	249	231	510	272	238
Mother unemployed	724	346	378	663	307	355
With no employed parent	1,106	547	560	1,159	598	560
Father unemployed	381	117	265	413	151	262
Mother unemployed	37	25	12	46	29	17
Both unemployed	105	44	61	104	48	55
Neither in labor force	583	361	222	596	370	226
Families maintained by women	6,208	3,891	2,317	6,287	3,865	2,421
Mother employed	3,714	2,702	1,012	3,800	2,675	1,126
Mother not employed	2,495	1,189	1,306	2,487	1,191	1,296
Unemployed	538	314	224	524	287	237
Not in labor force	1,957	875	1,082	1,963	904	1,059
Families maintained by men	964	638	326	1,006	668	338
Father employed	795	524	271	811	544	267
Father not employed	169	114	54	195	123	72
Unemployed	75	44	30	80	44	36
Not in labor force	94	70	24	115	79	36
Total families with unemployed parents	2,339	1,139	1,201	2,340	1,138	1,200

Table 5. Employment status of persons in families by family relationship, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	II 1985					II 1986				
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed			Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed		
			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)
TOTAL										
In families	145,049	65.2	6,929	7.3	68.2	146,198	65.8	6,963	7.2	68.7
In married-couple families	120,936	65.7	4,829	6.1	76.6	121,627	66.4	4,809	6.0	77.3
Husbands	49,743	78.5	1,561	4.0	57.4	50,068	78.4	1,603	4.1	58.4
Wives	49,743	53.3	1,386	5.2	81.7	50,068	54.5	1,298	4.8	83.0
Other family member(s)	21,450	64.9	1,882	13.5	88.8	21,491	65.9	1,908	13.5	89.4
In families maintained by women	19,339	61.3	1,766	14.9	47.8	19,473	61.7	1,742	14.5	47.4
Householder	10,169	61.8	645	10.3	18.6	10,332	61.6	616	9.7	16.7
Other family member(s)	9,170	60.7	1,121	20.1	64.6	9,141	61.8	1,126	19.9	64.1
In families maintained by men	4,775	69.2	334	10.1	54.2	5,099	68.3	413	11.9	57.9
Householder	2,388	77.3	139	7.5	31.7	2,517	76.0	164	8.6	30.5
Other family member(s)	2,387	61.1	195	13.4	70.2	2,582	60.7	249	15.9	75.8
White										
In families	125,365	65.5	5,151	6.3	71.4	126,076	66.1	5,120	6.1	71.1
In married-couple families	108,538	65.6	3,998	5.6	76.8	108,868	66.3	3,912	5.4	77.4
Husbands	45,065	78.6	1,311	3.7	57.5	45,218	78.4	1,307	3.7	57.6
Wives	45,065	52.4	1,183	5.0	81.8	45,216	53.6	1,078	4.4	83.6
Other family member(s)	18,408	66.3	1,504	12.3	89.6	18,434	67.5	1,527	12.3	89.9
In families maintained by women	13,071	63.5	944	11.4	52.0	13,254	63.5	927	11.0	48.3
Householder	7,002	63.0	349	7.9	24.9	7,162	62.8	338	7.5	21.7
Other family member(s)	6,069	64.1	595	15.3	67.9	6,092	64.4	589	15.0	63.7
In families maintained by men	3,756	69.8	209	8.0	56.0	3,954	69.0	281	10.3	58.7
Householder	1,906	78.5	88	5.9	32.8	1,990	76.8	120	7.8	29.8
Other family member(s)	1,850	60.9	121	10.7	73.2	1,964	61.2	161	13.4	80.2
Black										
In families	15,626	62.9	1,575	16.0	58.0	15,751	64.3	1,608	15.9	60.8
In married-couple families	9,078	66.6	684	11.3	77.2	9,137	68.2	720	11.6	77.6
Husbands	3,444	76.5	195	7.4	60.5	3,521	77.6	225	8.2	62.5
Wives	3,375	62.3	165	7.8	79.7	3,416	64.0	173	7.9	79.7
Other family member(s)	2,259	57.7	324	24.9	85.9	2,200	59.4	322	24.6	87.3
In families maintained by women	5,744	56.3	780	24.1	42.6	5,716	57.6	776	23.6	46.3
Householder	2,909	58.9	279	16.3	10.4	2,925	58.8	266	15.5	10.0
Other family member(s)	2,835	53.6	501	33.0	60.3	2,791	56.3	510	32.5	65.1
In families maintained by men	804	68.4	110	20.0	49.1	898	67.1	113	18.7	52.2
Householder	401	73.0	42	14.3	(1)	431	73.3	40	12.7	(1)
Other family member(s)	403	63.8	68	26.4	62.7	467	61.3	73	25.3	66.6
Hispanic origin										
In families	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	10,289	63.3	692	10.6	63.0
In married-couple families	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	7,856	65.0	477	9.3	71.3
Husbands	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	2,965	85.1	172	6.8	45.3
Wives	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	3,086	49.0	109	7.2	87.5
Other family member(s)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	1,805	59.3	196	18.3	85.4
In families maintained by women	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	1,809	52.7	153	16.1	33.3
Householder	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	959	48.1	65	14.2	20.8
Other family member(s)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	850	57.9	88	17.9	42.2
In families maintained by men	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	624	73.1	61	13.4	73.8
Householder	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	276	80.8	27	12.3	(1)
Other family member(s)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	348	67.0	34	14.8	(1)

[1] Data not shown where base is less than 60,000.

[2] Data on Hispanic families for 1985 are not available on a revised basis that reflects the adjustments to the population totals introduced in January 1986.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	II 1985	II 1986	II 1985	II 1986	II 1985	II 1986
TOTAL						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	41,342	41,917	100.0	100.0	$526	$537
One earner	18,968	18,935	45.9	45.2	336	341
Two or more earners	22,374	22,982	54.1	54.8	696	715
Married-couple families	33,091	33,381	100.0	100.0	587	603
One earner	13,432	13,081	40.6	39.2	386	393
Husband	10,414	10,044	31.5	30.1	442	455
Wife	2,239	2,355	6.8	7.1	219	226
Other family member	779	682	2.4	2.0	200	206
Two or more earners	19,659	20,300	59.4	60.8	719	740
Husband and wife only	13,707	14,088	41.4	42.2	690	712
Husband, wife, and other family member(s)	3,200	3,335	9.7	10.0	927	942
Husband and other family member(s)	2,049	2,161	6.2	6.5	688	721
Wife and other family member(s)	506	508	1.5	1.5	484	492
Other family members only	196	207	.6	.6	436	449
Families maintained by women	6,508	6,715	100.0	100.0	302	305
One earner	4,419	4,640	67.9	69.1	239	241
Householder	3,404	3,623	52.3	53.9	249	251
Other family member	1,015	1,017	15.6	15.1	196	200
Two or more earners	2,089	2,076	32.1	30.9	487	501
Families maintained by men	1,742	1,820	100.0	100.0	468	408
One earner	1,117	1,214	64.1	66.7	361	334
Householder	886	959	50.8	52.7	395	368
Other family member	231	255	13.3	14.0	217	211
Two or more earners	625	607	35.9	33.3	658	646
White						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	35,712	35,988	100.0	100.0	546	558
One earner	16,242	15,990	45.5	44.4	358	364
Two or more earners	19,470	19,998	54.5	55.6	704	723
Married-couple families	29,544	29,646	100.0	100.0	593	609
One earner	12,196	11,780	41.3	39.7	396	403
Husband	9,618	9,197	32.6	31.0	452	466
Wife	1,893	1,990	6.4	6.7	221	229
Two or more earners	17,348	17,866	58.7	60.3	723	747
Husband and wife only	12,131	12,369	41.1	41.7	693	717
Families maintained by women	4,743	4,895	100.0	100.0	316	320
One earner	3,137	3,259	66.1	66.6	250	254
Two or more earners	1,606	1,635	33.9	33.4	496	503
Families maintained by men	1,425	1,447	100.0	100.0	485	438
One earner	908	950	63.8	65.7	378	360
Two or more earners	516	497	36.2	34.3	659	661
Black						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	4,542	4,727	100.0	100.0	391	399
One earner	2,273	2,383	50.0	50.4	233	243
Two or more earners	2,269	2,344	50.0	49.6	611	636
Married-couple families	2,670	2,782	100.0	100.0	500	523
One earner	906	919	33.9	33.0	248	286
Husband	550	576	20.6	20.7	278	329
Wife	285	283	10.7	10.2	212	222
Two or more earners	1,765	1,863	66.1	67.0	667	673
Husband and wife only	1,210	1,318	45.3	47.4	637	653
Families maintained by women	1,598	1,660	100.0	100.0	259	260
One earner	1,182	1,262	73.9	76.0	209	213
Two or more earners	416	398	26.1	24.0	466	486
Families maintained by men	274	285	100.0	100.0	358	310
One earner	186	202	67.9	70.9	297	271
Two or more earners	88	83	32.1	29.1	(*)	(*)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	II 1985	II 1986	II 1985	II 1986	II 1985	II 1986
Hispanic origin						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	(3)	3,013	(3)	100.0	(3)	$409
One earner	(3)	1,545	(3)	51.3	(3)	268
Two or more earners	(3)	1,468	(3)	48.7	(3)	594
Married-couple families	(3)	2,270	(3)	100.0	(3)	450
One earner	(3)	1,067	(3)	47.0	(3)	294
Husband	(3)	894	(3)	39.4	(3)	314
Wife	(3)	112	(3)	4.9	(3)	191
Two or more earners	(3)	1,204	(3)	53.0	(3)	611
Husband and wife only	(3)	813	(3)	35.8	(3)	597
Families maintained by women	(3)	525	(3)	100.0	(3)	264
One earner	(3)	366	(3)	69.8	(3)	209
Two or more earners	(3)	158	(3)	30.2	(3)	502
Families maintained by men	(3)	218	(3)	100.0	(3)	376
One earner	(3)	112	(3)	51.6	(3)	241
Two or more earners	(3)	105	(3)	48.4	(3)	535

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

[3] Data on Hispanic families for 1985 are not available on a revised basis that reflects the adjustments to the population totals introduced in January 1986.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 7. Families with unemployed members and wage and salary earners by type of family and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	II 1985	II 1986	II 1985	II 1986	II 1985	II 1986
Families with unemployment and wage and salary earners[1]	3,833	3,944	—	—	$357	$384
Married-couple families	3,058	3,062	100.0	100.0	383	409
Husband unemployed	904	954	29.8	31.1	215	240
Wife only earner	692	730	22.6	23.8	206	222
Wife and other earner(s)	110	135	3.6	4.4	335	388
Other earners only	102	89	3.3	2.9	157	(2)
Wife unemployed	1,022	970	33.4	31.7	377	402
Husband only earner	864	817	28.2	26.7	354	383
Husband and other earner(s)	139	127	4.6	4.1	552	617
Other earners only	19	27	.6	.9	(2)	(2)
Other members unemployed	1,132	1,138	37.0	37.2	621	652
Husband or wife earners	493	486	16.1	15.9	463	499
Husband and wife earners	581	619	19.0	20.2	817	746
Other combinations of earners	58	33	1.9	1.1	(2)	(2)
Families maintained by women	645	678	100.0	100.0	252	285
Householder unemployed	128	72	19.8	10.8	129	(2)
Other member(s) unemployed	517	606	80.2	89.4	291	301
Families maintained by men	130	205	100.0	100.0	353	367
Householder unemployed	43	53	33.3	25.7	(2)	(2)
Other member(s) unemployed	87	152	66.7	74.3	(2)	409

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

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EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES: FIRST QUARTER 1986

Nearly 700,000 more of the nation's families had employed members in the first quarter of 1986 than a year earlier, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Black families accounted for nearly one-fourth of this increase, even though they comprised just 11 percent of the nation's families.

The unemployment situation in families showed little change. Black and Hispanic families continued to be more likely to have someone unemployed than white families. Other first-quarter highlights are as follows:

--About 50.5 million families, 80 percent of the total families, had at least one member who was employed. The proportion was somewhat lower--73 percent--for black families. Over the past 2 years, however, the number of black families with employed members has increased almost twice as fast as the overall number of black families. (See tables A and 1.)

--The proportion of married-couple families in which both spouses were employed continued its long-term rise. In the first quarter, both spouses were employed in 45 percent of these families. (See table 2.)

--There was little change over the year in both the number and Proportion of families with unemployed members. About 6.5 million or 10 percent of all families had at least one member who was looking for a job, but more than two-thirds of these also contained someone who was employed. (See tables A and 3.)

--Median wage and salary earnings of families were $531 a week in the first quarter. The median for white families was nearly 50 percent greater than that of blacks and almost 40 percent higher than the median for Hispanic families. This is partly because a greater proportion of white families contained two or more earners. (See table 6.)

--Median earnings for families with both employed and unemployed members were $332 a week. However, earnings continued to vary by family

type and which member was unemployed. Among married-couple families, the median was $230 a week where the husband was unemployed, compared with $625 for families where the only unemployed member was a son, daughter, or other relative(s). Among families maintained by women, median weekly earnings were $188 when the woman herself was unemployed and $294 when the unemployed person was another family member. (See table 7.)

Table A. Summary labor force characteristics of families, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	I 1985	I 1986	Change
Total families	62,151	62,944	793
With employed member(s)	49,845	50,518	673
Percent of total families	80.2	80.3	.1
With member(s) employed full time	45,872	46,478	606
Percent of total families	73.8	73.8	-
With unemployed member(s)	6,547	6,482	-65
Percent with employed member(s)	68.6	68.5	-.1
Percent of total families	10.5	10.3	-.2
With unemployed member(s), none employed	2,055	2,041	-14
Percent of total families	3.3	3.2	-.1
With no members in the labor force	10,251	10,385	134
Percent with no members under 60 years old	60.2	60.8	.6
Percent of total families	16.5	16.5	-
With children under 18 years old	30,965	31,498	533
Percent with employed parent(s)	87.3	87.3	-
Percent with employed mother	55.7	56.6	.9
Percent of total families	49.8	50.0	.2
With children under 6 years old	14,081	14,427	346
Percent with employed parent(s)	86.1	85.9	-.2
Percent with employed mother	47.7	48.9	1.2
Percent of total families	22.7	22.9	.2

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The estimates in this release were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), which provides basic information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment. The survey is conducted monthly for the Bureau of Labor Statistics by the Bureau of the Census from a scientifically selected national sample of households, with coverage in all 50 States and the District of Columbia. The size of the monthly sample is about 59,500 households. The earnings data are collected from one-quarter of the CPS monthly sample and are limited to wages and salaries. The data, therefore, exclude self-employment income.

Reliability

In any sample survey, variations in the data can occur by chance because a sample, rather than the whole of the population, is surveyed. The standard error is a measure of such potential variation. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the survey differs from a figure that would be obtained from a complete census by less than one standard error. The chances are about 90 out of 100 that such a difference would be less than 1.6 standard errors. All statements of comparisons in the text of this release are significant at 1.6 or more standard errors.

Standard errors for numbers and proportions of families can be approximated using tables found in the Household Data section of the Explanatory Notes in Employment and Earnings. Representative standard errors for median family earnings are available from BLS upon request.

Definitions

The principal definitions used in this release are described briefly below.

Family. A family is a group of two or more persons residing together who are related by blood, marriage, or adoption. The count of families is for "primary" families only, that is, the householder and all other persons related to and residing with the householder. Not included are unrelated subfamilies. Families are classified either as married-couple families or families maintained by women or men without spouses.

Householder. A householder is the person in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented.

Children. Children are defined as "own" children, that is, never-married sons, daughters, step-children, and adopted children. Excluded are other related children, such as nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and cousins, and unrelated children.

Employed. Employed persons are those who during the survey week: (a) Did any work at all as paid civilians; (b) worked in their own business or profession or on their own farms; or (c) worked 15 hours or more as an unpaid worker in a family operated enterprise. Also included are those who were temporarily absent from their jobs because of illness, vacation, bad weather, labor-management disputes, or personal reasons.

Full-time workers. Persons who usually work 35 hours or more per week on their sole or principal job. Persons who work less than 35 hours are part-time workers.

Unemployed. The unemployed are persons who had no employment during the survey week, were available for work at that time and made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the prior 4 weeks. Persons laid off from their former jobs and awaiting recall and those expecting to report to a job within 30 days need not be looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

Civilian labor force. The civilian labor force is the sum of the employed and the unemployed.

Wage and salary workers. Workers who receive wages, salaries, commissions, tips, payment in kind, or piece rates. Persons who report themselves as self-employed, including those whose businesses are incorporated, are excluded from coverage in these earnings data.

Usual weekly earnings. Data on usual weekly earnings are provided from responses to the question, "How much does...USUALLY earn per week at this job before deductions? Include any overtime pay, commissions, or tips usually received." The response is for the worker's sole or principal job, and the term "usual" is as perceived by the respondent. If the respondent asks for a definition of "usual," interviewers are instructed to define the term as more than half the weeks worked during the past 4 or 5 months.

Median weekly earnings. The median of weekly earnings is the value at which 50 percent of the earnings distribution lies above and 50 percent lies below. The estimating procedure places each reported earnings value into intervals which are centered around multiples of $50. The actual value is calculated through linear interpolation of the interval in which the median lies.

Over-the-year changes in the medians for component groups may not necessarily be consistent with the changes estimated for the overall median and therefore are not presented in this release. Circumstances under which this can occur include: (1) Even though medians of component groups may rise, if the lower-earnings group accounts for a sufficiently increased share of the total, the overall median can rise less than for any of the groups; and (2) survey observations tend to be clustered at rounded values, such as $250, $300, and $400, and an estimated median lying in a $50-wide centered interval containing such a cluster changes more slowly than one in non-clustered intervals. For example, if the medians for component groups are not in a cluster but the overall group median is, then the increase in the overall median will be less than for the components.

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Table 1. Families by employment status of members, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	I 1985	1 1986	I 1985	I 1986
TOTAL				
Total families	62,151	62,944	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	10,251	10,385	16.5	16.5
With at least one member in the labor force	51,901	52,559	83.5	83.5
No member employed	2,055	2,041	3.3	3.2
Some member employed	49,845	50,518	80.2	80.3
No one unemployed	45,353	46,077	73.0	73.2
One or more employed full time	42,022	42,676	67.6	67.8
Some member unemployed	4,492	4,441	7.2	7.1
One or more employed full time	3,850	3,802	6.2	6.0
White				
Total families	53,879	54,456	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	8,651	8,809	16.1	16.2
With at least one member in the labor force	45,228	45,647	83.9	83.8
No member employed	1,436	1,480	2.7	2.7
Some member employed	43,792	44,168	81.3	81.1
No one unemployed	40,145	40,603	74.5	74.6
One or more employed full time	37,363	37,731	69.3	69.3
Some member unemployed	3,647	3,565	6.8	6.5
One or more employed full time	3,135	3,043	5.8	5.6
Black				
Total families	6,746	6,849	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	1,395	1,388	20.7	20.3
With at least one member in the labor force	5,351	5,461	79.3	79.7
No member employed	553	497	8.2	7.3
Some member employed	4,797	4,964	71.1	72.5
No one unemployed	4,081	4,213	60.5	61.5
One or more employed full time	3,603	3,768	53.4	55.0
Some member unemployed	716	751	10.6	11.0
One or more employed full time	605	647	9.0	9.4
Hispanic origin				
Total families	(1)	4,195	(1)	100.0
With no members in the labor force	(1)	627	(1)	14.9
With at least one member in the labor force	(1)	3,569	(1)	85.1
No member employed	(1)	233	(1)	5.6
Some member employed	(1)	3,336	(1)	79.5
No one unemployed	(1)	2,927	(1)	69.8
One or more employed full time	(1)	2,705	(1)	64.5
Some member unemployed	(1)	409	(1)	9.7
One or more employed full time	(1)	337	(1)	8.0

1/ Data on Hispanic families for 1985 are not available on a revised basis that reflects the adjustments to the population totals introduced in January 1985.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 2. Families by employment status of members and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	I 1985	I 1986	I 1985	I 1986
Married-couple families	49,613	50,054	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	7,402	7,547	14.9	15.1
With at least one member in the labor force	42,211	42,507	85.1	84.9
No member employed	1,051	1,064	2.1	2.1
Some member employed	41,160	41,443	83.0	82.8
Husband only	12,331	12,108	24.9	24.2
Wife only	2,546	2,572	5.1	5.1
Husband and wife	22,044	22,587	44.4	45.1
Husband and wife only	17,600	18,025	35.5	36.0
Other combinations	4,239	4,176	8.5	8.3
Families maintained by women	10,148	10,270	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	2,562	2,525	25.2	24.6
With at least one member in the labor force	7,586	7,745	74.8	75.4
No member employed	844	806	8.3	7.8
Some member employed	6,742	6,939	66.4	67.6
Householder employed	5,502	5,657	54.2	55.1
Householder only	3,484	3,592	34.3	35.0
Householder and other(s)	2,018	2,065	19.9	20.1
Other combinations	1,240	1,282	12.2	12.5
Families maintained by men	2,391	2,620	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	287	313	12.0	11.9
With at least one member in the labor force	2,104	2,307	88.0	88.1
No member employed	160	171	6.7	6.5
Some member employed	1,943	2,136	81.3	81.5
Householder employed	1,641	1,829	68.6	69.8
Householder only	947	1,020	39.6	38.9
Householder and other(s)	694	809	29.0	30.9
Other combinations	302	307	12.6	11.7

Table 3. Families with unemployed members by type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	I 1985	I 1986	I 1985	I 1986
Families with unemployment	6,547	6,482	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	4,492	4,441	68.6	68.5
With no members employed	2,055	2,041	31.4	31.5
Married-couple families	4,643	4,578	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	3,591	3,514	77.3	76.8
With no members employed	1,051	1,064	22.6	23.2
With husband unemployed	1,906	1,936	41.1	42.3
Wife employed	1,019	1,013	21.9	22.1
Other(s) employed	87	110	1.9	2.4
No one employed	800	813	17.2	17.8
With wife unemployed	1,258	1,248	27.1	27.3
Husband employed	1,136	1,120	24.5	24.5
Other(s) employed	18	24	.4	.5
No one employed	104	104	2.2	2.3
With other member(s) unemployed	1,479	1,394	31.9	30.4
Families maintained by women	1,547	1,525	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	703	719	45.4	47.1
With no members employed	844	806	54.6	52.9
With householder unemployed	657	648	42.5	42.5
Other(s) employed	108	99	7.0	6.5
No one employed	549	549	35.5	36.0
With other member(s) unemployed	890	877	57.5	57.5
Families maintained by men	358	378	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	197	207	55.0	54.8
With no members employed	160	171	44.7	45.2
With householder unemployed	184	186	51.4	49.2
Other(s) employed	59	47	16.5	12.4
No one employed	125	139	34.9	36.8
With other member(s) unemployed	174	192	48.6	50.8

Table 4. Families with children under 18 years old by the employment status of parent(s) and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(In thousands)

Characteristic	I 1985			I 1986		
	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old
Total families	30,965	16,883	14,081	31,498	17,071	14,427
Married-couple families	23,911	12,427	11,484	24,198	12,560	11,639
With employed parent(s)	22,646	11,773	10,874	22,901	11,902	10,999
Neither unemployed	21,312	11,105	10,208	21,582	11,235	10,347
Father employed	8,269	3,491	4,778	8,117	3,432	4,685
Mother employed	450	321	130	455	315	140
Both employed	12,593	7,293	5,300	13,010	7,488	5,522
One unemployed	1,333	668	666	1,318	666	652
Father unemployed	595	310	286	614	335	279
Mother unemployed	738	358	380	704	331	373
With no employed parent	1,265	653	610	1,298	657	640
Father unemployed	453	163	290	503	171	332
Mother unemployed	46	30	16	49	31	17
Both unemployed	145	72	72	141	67	74
Neither in labor force	621	388	232	605	388	217
Families maintained by women	6,105	3,816	2,289	6,262	3,823	2,438
Mother employed	3,599	2,597	1,002	3,745	2,635	1,110
Mother not employed	2,506	1,219	1,288	2,516	1,188	1,328
Unemployed	528	300	229	540	282	258
Not in labor force	1,978	919	1,059	1,976	906	1,070
Families maintained by men	949	641	308	1,038	688	351
Father employed	772	523	250	843	559	285
Father not employed	177	118	58	195	129	66
Unemployed	88	56	32	100	53	46
Not in labor force	89	62	26	95	76	20
Total families with unemployed parents	2,593	1,289	1,305	2,651	1,270	1,379

Table 5. Employment status of persons in families by family relationship, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	I 1985					I 1986				
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed			Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed		
			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)
TOTAL										
In families	144,831	64.5	7,332	7.9	66.1	145,969	64.8	7,234	7.6	66.2
In married-couple families	120,779	65.2	5,179	6.6	74.3	121,273	65.4	5,078	6.4	74.0
Husbands	49,613	78.5	1,906	4.9	58.0	50,054	78.3	1,936	4.9	58.0
Wives	49,612	53.7	1,462	5.5	79.9	50,054	54.4	1,439	5.3	80.8
Other family member(s)	21,554	60.8	1,811	13.8	86.8	21,165	60.9	1,703	13.2	86.4
In families maintained by women	19,238	59.3	1,753	15.4	45.1	19,408	60.2	1,736	14.9	46.7
Householder	10,148	60.7	657	10.7	16.4	10,270	61.4	648	10.3	15.2
Other family member(s)	9,090	57.7	1,096	20.9	62.2	9,138	58.9	1,088	20.2	65.5
In families maintained by men	4,815	67.3	400	12.3	52.0	5,288	67.9	419	11.7	52.0
Householder	2,391	76.4	184	10.1	32.0	2,620	76.9	186	9.2	24.9
Other family member(s)	2,424	58.4	216	15.3	68.8	2,668	59.1	233	14.8	73.6
White										
In families	125,363	64.9	5,571	6.8	69.1	125,964	65.2	5,514	6.7	68.4
In married-couple families	108,644	65.1	4,355	6.2	74.5	108,651	65.4	4,256	6.0	73.8
Husbands	45,021	78.6	1,626	4.6	58.0	45,279	78.4	1,657	4.7	57.2
Wives	44,986	52.9	1,249	5.3	81.2	45,235	53.6	1,229	5.1	81.4
Other family member(s)	18,637	62.1	1,480	12.8	87.0	18,137	62.4	1,370	12.1	87.2
In families maintained by women	12,916	61.9	934	11.7	49.1	13,124	62.5	955	11.6	49.6
Householder	6,940	62.4	364	8.4	21.1	7,076	62.8	370	8.3	20.6
Other family member(s)	5,976	61.4	570	15.5	67.0	6,048	62.1	585	15.6	67.9
In families maintained by men	3,803	68.6	282	10.8	52.1	4,189	68.7	303	10.5	50.5
Householder	1,915	77.4	129	8.7	32.6	2,100	77.5	145	8.9	24.5
Other family member(s)	1,888	59.6	153	13.6	68.6	2,089	59.7	158	12.6	74.4
Black										
In families	15,446	61.3	1,539	16.3	55.4	15,713	61.8	1,506	15.5	58.8
In married-couple families	8,785	66.1	646	11.1	74.5	9,069	65.7	663	11.1	76.2
Husbands	3,385	76.4	207	8.0	61.2	3,502	76.2	217	8.1	63.8
Wives	3,309	63.8	165	7.8	71.1	3,415	62.6	162	7.6	78.3
Other family member(s)	2,091	53.1	274	24.7	86.5	2,152	53.4	284	24.7	84.4
In families maintained by women	5,850	53.9	790	25.0	40.4	5,797	55.1	743	23.3	43.5
Householder	2,977	57.0	282	16.6	10.2	2,952	58.0	263	15.3	7.7
Other family member(s)	2,873	50.7	508	34.9	57.0	2,845	52.1	480	32.4	63.0
In families maintained by men	811	62.6	102	20.1	52.0	847	66.7	99	17.5	57.6
Householder	393	71.6	47	16.8	29.4	413	74.0	33	10.9	27.2
Other family member(s)	418	54.4	55	24.2	71.1	434	59.9	66	25.2	72.4
Hispanic origin										
In families	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	10,217	62.2	775	12.2	61.9
In married-couple families	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	7,610	64.0	541	11.1	67.8
Husbands	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	2,899	86.0	218	8.7	48.8
Wives	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	3,013	48.1	139	9.6	80.0
Other family member(s)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	1,698	55.0	184	19.7	80.9
In families maintained by women	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	1,938	52.0	176	17.5	45.5
Householder	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	978	49.1	62	13.0	19.2
Other family member(s)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	960	54.9	114	21.6	59.5
In families maintained by men	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	669	71.4	58	12.1	58.6
Householder	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	292	83.0	28	11.5	24.3
Other family member(s)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	377	62.4	30	12.6	90.3

1/ Data on Hispanic families for 1985 are not available on a revised basis that reflects the adjustments to the population totals introduced in January 1985.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	I 1985	I 1986	I 1985	I 1986	I 1985	I 1986
TOTAL						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	41,328	42,101	100.0	100.0	$511	$531
One earner	18,757	19,000	45.4	45.1	327	335
Two or more earners	22,571	23,101	54.6	54.9	672	708
Married-couple families	33,320	33,612	100.0	100.0	564	597
One earner	13,388	13,219	40.2	39.3	379	386
Husband	10,240	10,120	30.7	30.1	434	454
Wife	2,419	2,394	7.3	7.1	222	225
Other family member	729	705	2.2	2.1	207	209
Two or more earners	19,932	20,393	59.8	60.7	696	733
Husband and wife only	13,862	14,450	41.6	43.0	665	706
Husband, wife, and other family member(s)	3,182	3,188	9.5	9.5	916	952
Husband and other family member(s)	2,112	1,944	6.3	5.8	675	701
Wife and other family member(s)	571	633	1.7	1.9	429	444
Other family members only	205	177	.6	.5	495	454
Families maintained by women	6,404	6,690	100.0	100.0	288	303
One earner	4,380	4,635	68.4	69.3	229	237
Householder	3,452	3,651	53.9	54.6	239	248
Other family member	928	984	14.5	14.7	198	202
Two or more earners	2,024	2,055	31.6	30.7	476	495
Families maintained by men	1,604	1,799	100.0	100.0	455	437
One earner	989	1,146	61.6	63.7	339	355
Householder	777	919	48.5	51.1	400	378
Other family member	212	226	13.2	12.6	203	247
Two or more earners	615	653	38.4	36.3	621	588
White						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	35,694	36,203	100.0	100.0	526	554
One earner	16,003	16,014	44.8	44.2	350	360
Two or more earners	19,691	20,189	55.2	55.8	683	721
Married-couple families	29,899	30,063	100.0	100.0	571	606
One earner	12,216	11,896	40.9	39.6	390	400
Husband	9,420	9,223	31.5	30.7	447	466
Wife	2,119	2,052	7.1	6.8	222	225
Two or more earners	17,683	18,168	59.1	60.4	704	743
Husband and wife only	12,263	12,817	41.0	42.6	674	715
Families maintained by women	4,525	4,718	100.0	100.0	298	313
One earner	3,034	3,217	67.1	88.2	236	245
Two or more earners	1,491	1,501	32.9	31.8	482	493
Families maintained by men	1,270	1,421	100.0	100.0	483	467
One earner	752	902	59.2	63.4	372	384
Two or more earners	517	520	40.8	36.8	618	621
Black						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	4,557	4,719	100.0	100.0	368	377
One earner	2,288	2,498	50.2	52.9	236	240
Two or more earners	2,289	2,221	49.8	47.1	574	596
Married-couple families	2,546	2,600	100.0	100.0	480	483
One earner	826	978	32.4	37.5	259	262
Husband	562	622	22.1	23.9	285	295
Wife	230	282	9.0	10.8	216	218
Two or more earners	1,721	1,824	67.6	62.5	609	641
Husband and wife only	1,249	1,212	49.0	46.6	585	629
Families maintained by women	1,744	1,801	100.0	100.0	262	269
One earner	1,265	1,313	72.5	72.9	217	219
Two or more earners	479	488	27.5	27.1	433	487
Families maintained by men	267	319	100.0	100.0	314	339
One earner	198	210	74.1	65.8	277	295
Two or more earners	69	109	25.9	34.2	([2])	449

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	I 1985	I 1986	I 1985	I 1986	I 1985	I 1986
Hispanic origin						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	(3)	2,997	(3)	100.0	(3)	$401
One earner	(3)	1,545	(3)	51.6	(3)	274
Two or more earners	(3)	1,452	(3)	48.4	(3)	556
Married-couple families	(3)	2,274	(3)	100.0	(3)	427
One earner	(3)	1,098	(3)	48.3	(3)	294
Husband	(3)	903	(3)	39.7	(3)	312
Wife	(3)	138	(3)	6.1	(3)	187
Two or more earners	(3)	1,175	(3)	51.7	(3)	579
Husband and wife only	(3)	741	(3)	32.6	(3)	545
Families maintained by women	(3)	495	(3)	100.0	(3)	275
One earner	(3)	328	(3)	66.3	(3)	209
Two or more earners	(3)	167	(3)	33.7	(3)	442
Families maintained by men	(3)	228	(3)	100.0	(3)	408
One earner	(3)	118	(3)	52.0	(3)	332
Two or more earners	(3)	110	(3)	48.0	(3)	542

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

[3] Data on Hispanic families for 1985 are not available on a revised basis that reflects the adjustments to the population totals introduced in January 1986.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 7. **Families with unemployed members and wage and salary earners by type of family and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted**

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	I 1985	I 1986	I 1985	I 1986	I 1985	I 1986
Families with unemployment and wage and salary earners[1]	4,143	4,015	--	--	$349	$332
Married-couple families	3,262	3,169	100.0	100.0	373	351
Husband unemployed	1,132	1,152	34.7	36.3	237	230
Wife only earner	902	846	27.6	26.7	222	214
Wife and other earner(s)	154	191	4.7	6.0	397	391
Other earners only	76	115	2.3	3.6	([2])	193
Wife unemployed	1,036	1,030	31.8	32.5	373	380
Husband only earner	898	882	27.5	27.8	349	354
Husband and other earner(s)	122	124	3.8	3.9	592	570
Other earners only	15	23	.5	.7	([2])	([2])
Other members unemployed	1,094	988	33.5	31.2	600	625
Husband or wife earners	455	423	14.0	13.3	477	402
Husband and wife earners	591	530	18.1	16.7	732	793
Other combinations of earners	48	35	1.5	1.1	([2])	([2])
Families maintained by women	705	664	100.0	100.0	280	271
Householder unemployed	97	117	13.8	17.6	([2])	188
Other member(s) unemployed	608	547	86.2	82.4	296	294
Families maintained by men	177	182	100.0	100.0	315	328
Householder unemployed	57	40	32.1	22.3	([2])	([2])
Other member(s) unemployed	120	141	67.9	77.7	356	345

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

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EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES: FOURTH QUARTER 1985

Nearly 60 percent of the mothers in families with children under 18 were employed in the fourth quarter of 1985, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. While the total number of families with school or preschool children rose by 460,000 over the year, the number with employed mothers shot up by 765,000 to 18.2 million. Other fourth-quarter 1985 highlights are as follows:

--The total number of families with employed members grew by nearly 600,000 over the year to 50.8 million--81 percent of all families. Black families accounted for nearly a third of the gain, even though they comprise only about 11 percent of all U.S. families. (See tables A and 1.)

--About 42.1 million married-couple families contained at least one employed member, 300,000 more than a year earlier. Both husband and wife were employed in 23.5 million of these families, representing 47 percent of all married-couple families. Employment also increased substantially for families maintained by women, but only about a fifth of the total had a worker in addition to the woman herself. (See tables 2 and 4.)

--The number of families with unemployed members was little changed over the year at 5.9 million. Nearly 80 percent of the married-couple families with unemployment also contained an employed member, compared with 47 percent of such families maintained by women. (See table 3.)

This release also includes three tables of annual averages for 1985 (tables 8-10). Highlights from these tables show that:

--About 85 percent of married couples and 76 percent of families maintained by women contained labor force participants in 1985. The vast majority of the married couples with no one in the labor force was comprised of persons 60 years old and over (77 percent). Relatively few of the families maintained by women with no one in the labor force consisted of older persons (15 percent). The women in this group tended to be young,

have very young children, and often lacked adequate education and labor market skills. (See table 8.)

--Median usual wage and salary earnings of families were $522 per week in 1985, 4.6 percent above the previous year's level. Families with two or more earners continued to earn over twice as much as families with just one earner. Medians for black and Hispanic families remained well below that of white families. Since the last year of recession (1982), median family earnings have grown 16 percent, compared with an 11 percent rise in consumer prices as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U). (See table 10.)

Table A. Summary labor force characteristics of families, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	IV 1984	IV 1985	Change
Total families	62,194	62,915	721
With employed member(s)	50,236	50,827	591
Percent of total families	80.8	80.8	-
With member(s) employed full time	46,460	46,974	514
Percent of total families	74.7	74.7	-
With unemployed member(s)	5,922	5,890	-32
Percent with employed member(s)	69.4	69.9	.5
Percent of total families	9.5	9.4	-.1
With unemployed member(s), none employed	1,813	1,771	-42
Percent of total families	2.9	2.8	-.1
With no members in the labor force	10,145	10,317	172
Percent with no members under 60 years old	60.4	61.3	.9
Percent of total families	16.3	16.4	.1
With children under 18 years old	30,955	31,416	461
Percent with employed parent(s)	88.1	88.1	-
Percent with employed mother	56.3	58.0	1.7
Percent of total families	49.8	49.9	.1
With children under 6 years old	14,018	14,268	250
Percent with employed parent(s)	87.5	86.6	-.9
Percent with employed mother	49.1	49.1	-
Percent of total families	22.5	22.7	.2

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The estimates in this release were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), which provides basic information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment. The survey is conducted monthly for the Bureau of Labor Statistics by the Bureau of the Census from a scientifically selected national sample of households, with coverage in all 50 States and the District of Columbia. The size of the monthly sample is about 59,500 households. The earnings data are collected from one-quarter of the CPS monthly sample and are limited to wages and salaries. The data, therefore, exclude self-employment income.

Reliability

In any sample survey, variations in the data can occur by chance because a sample, rather than the whole of the population, is surveyed. The standard error is a measure of such potential variation. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the survey differs from a figure that would be obtained from a complete census by less than one standard error. The chances are about 90 out of 100 that such a difference would be less than 1.6 standard errors. All statements of comparisons in the text of this release are significant at 1.6 or more standard errors.

Standard errors for numbers and proportions of families can be approximated using tables found in the Household Data section of the Explanatory Notes in Employment and Earnings. Representative standard errors for median family earnings are available from BLS upon request.

Definitions

The principal definitions used in this release are described briefly below.

Family. A family is a group of two or more persons residing together who are related by blood, marriage, or adoption. The count of families is for "primary" families only, that is, the householder and all other persons related to and residing with the householder. Not included are unrelated subfamilies. Families are classified either as married-couple families or families maintained by women or men without spouses.

Householder. A householder is the person in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented.

Children. Children are defined as "own" children, that is, never-married sons, daughters, step-children, and adopted children. Excluded are other related children, such as nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and cousins, and unrelated children.

Employed. Employed persons are those who during the survey week: (a) Did any work at all as paid civilians; (b) worked in their own business or profession or on their own farms; or (c) worked 15 hours or more as an unpaid worker in a family operated enterprise. Also included are those who were temporarily absent from their jobs because of illness, vacation, bad weather, labor-management disputes, or personal reasons.

Full-time workers. Persons who usually work 35 hours or more per week on their sole or principal job. Persons who work less than 35 hours are part-time workers.

Unemployed. The unemployed are persons who had no employment during the survey week, were available for work at that time and made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the prior 4 weeks. Persons laid off from their former jobs and awaiting recall and those expecting to report to a job within 30 days need not be looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

Civilian labor force. The civilian labor force is the sum of the employed and the unemployed.

Wage and salary workers. Workers who receive wages, salaries, commissions, tips, payment in kind, or piece rates. Persons who report themselves as self-employed, including those whose businesses are incorporated, are excluded from coverage in these earnings data.

Usual weekly earnings. Data on usual weekly earnings are provided from responses to the question, "How much does...USUALLY earn per week at this job before deductions? Include any overtime pay, commissions, or tips usually received." The response is for the worker's sole or principal job, and the term "usual" is as perceived by the respondent. If the respondent asks for a definition of "usual," interviewers are instructed to define the term as more than half the weeks worked during the past 4 or 5 months.

Median weekly earnings. The median of weekly earnings is the value at which 50 percent of the earnings distribution lies above and 50 percent lies below. The estimating procedure places each reported earnings value into intervals which are centered around multiples of $50. The actual value is calculated through linear interpolation of the interval in which the median lies.

Over-the-year changes in the medians for component groups may not necessarily be consistent with the changes estimated for the overall median and therefore are not presented in this release. Circumstances under which this can occur include: (1) Even though medians of component groups may rise, if the lower-earnings group accounts for a sufficiently increased share of the total, the overall median can rise less than for any of the groups; and (2) survey observations tend to be clustered at rounded values, such as $250, $300, and $400, and an estimated median lying in a $50-wide centered interval containing such a cluster changes more slowly than one in non-clustered intervals. For example, if the medians for component groups are not in a cluster but the overall group median is, then the increase in the overall median will be less than for the components.

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Table 1. Families by employment status of members, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	IV 1984	IV 1985	IV 1984	IV 1985
TOTAL				
Total families	62,194	62,915	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	10,145	10,317	16.3	16.4
With at least one member in the labor force	52,049	52,598	83.7	83.6
No member employed	1,813	1,771	2.9	2.8
Some member employed	50,236	50,827	80.8	80.8
No one unemployed	46,127	46,708	74.2	74.2
One or more employed full time	42,907	43,401	69.0	69.0
Some member unemployed	4,109	4,119	6.6	6.5
One or more employed full time	3,553	3,573	5.7	5.7
White				
Total families	53,941	54,402	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	8,610	8,724	16.0	16.0
With at least one member in the labor force	45,331	45,678	84.0	84.0
No member employed	1,262	1,198	2.3	2.2
Some member employed	44,069	44,480	81.7	81.8
No one unemployed	40,806	41,238	75.6	75.8
One or more employed full time	38,125	38,426	70.7	70.6
Some member unemployed	3,263	3,242	6.0	6.0
One or more employed full time	2,842	2,827	5.3	5.2
Black				
Total families	6,655	6,913	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	1,334	1,390	20.0	20.1
With at least one member in the labor force	5,321	5,524	80.0	79.9
No member employed	482	509	7.2	7.4
Some member employed	4,838	5,015	72.7	72.5
No one unemployed	4,119	4,267	61.9	61.7
One or more employed full time	3,665	3,857	55.1	55.8
Some member unemployed	719	748	10.8	10.8
One or more employed full time	599	638	9.0	9.2
Hispanic origin				
Total families	(1)	4,026	(1)	100.0
With no members in the labor force	(1)	629	(1)	15.6
With at least one member in the labor force	(1)	3,397	(1)	84.4
No member employed	(1)	189	(1)	4.7
Some member employed	(1)	3,208	(1)	79.7
No one unemployed	(1)	2,826	(1)	70.2
One or more employed full time	(1)	2,620	(1)	65.1
Some member unemployed	(1)	382	(1)	9.5
One or more employed full time	(1)	332	(1)	8.2

[1] Data on Hispanic families for 1984 are not available on a revised basis that reflects the adjustments to the population totals introduced in January 1985.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 2. Families by employment status of members and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	IV 1984	IV 1985	IV 1984	IV 1985
Married-couple families	50,082	50,424	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	7,396	7,487	14.8	14.8
With at least one member in the labor force	42,686	42,937	85.2	85.2
No member employed	931	881	1.9	1.7
Some member employed	41,756	42,056	83.4	83.4
Husband only	12,377	11,898	24.7	23.6
Wife only	2,336	2,332	4.7	4.6
Husband and wife	22,730	23,542	45.4	46.7
Husband and wife only	18,037	18,705	36.0	37.1
Other combinations	4,313	4,284	8.6	8.5
Families maintained by women	9,788	10,055	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	2,474	2,527	25.3	25.1
With at least one member in the labor force	7,314	7,528	74.7	74.9
No member employed	753	742	7.7	7.4
Some member employed	6,561	6,786	67.0	67.5
Householder employed	5,326	5,492	54.4	54.6
Householder only	3,357	3,503	34.3	34.8
Householder and other(s)	1,969	1,989	20.1	19.8
Other combinations	1,235	1,294	12.6	12.9
Families maintained by men	2,324	2,436	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	275	303	11.8	12.4
With at least one member in the labor force	2,049	2,134	88.2	87.6
No member employed	130	148	5.6	6.1
Some member employed	1,919	1,985	82.6	81.5
Householder employed	1,618	1,697	69.6	69.7
Householder only	852	912	36.7	37.4
Householder and other(s)	766	785	33.0	32.2
Other combinations	301	288	13.0	11.8

Table 3. Families with unemployed members by type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	IV 1984	IV 1985	IV 1984	IV 1985
Families with unemployment	5,922	5,890	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	4,109	4,119	69.4	69.9
With no members employed	1,813	1,771	30.6	30.1
Married-couple families	4,169	4,139	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	3,238	3,258	77.7	78.7
With no members employed	931	881	22.3	21.3
With husband unemployed	1,610	1,529	38.6	36.9
Wife employed	829	778	19.9	18.8
Other(s) employed	73	98	1.8	2.4
No one employed	708	652	17.0	15.8
With wife unemployed	1,232	1,198	29.6	28.9
Husband employed	1,115	1,095	26.7	26.5
Other(s) employed	22	17	.5	.4
No one employed	95	86	2.3	2.1
With other member(s) unemployed	1,327	1,412	31.8	34.1
Families maintained by women	1,443	1,405	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	691	663	47.9	47.2
With no members employed	753	742	52.2	52.8
With householder unemployed	622	613	43.1	43.6
Other(s) employed	105	102	7.3	7.3
No one employed	517	511	35.8	36.4
With other member(s) unemployed	821	792	56.9	56.4
Families maintained by men	310	347	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	180	198	58.1	57.1
With no members employed	130	148	41.9	42.7
With householder unemployed	135	146	43.5	42.1
Other(s) employed	41	41	13.2	11.8
No one employed	94	105	30.3	30.3
With other member(s) unemployed	175	201	56.5	57.9

Table 4. Families with children under 18 years old by the employment status of parent(s) and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(In thousands)

Characteristic	IV 1984			IV 1985		
	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old
Total families	30,955	16,937	14,018	31,416	17,148	14,268
Married-couple families	24,248	12,700	11,548	24,386	12,802	11,584
With employed parent(s)	23,108	12,082	11,027	23,309	12,238	11,071
Neither unemployed	21,853	11,439	10,415	22,070	11,603	10,467
Father employed	8,385	3,639	4,746	7,984	3,480	4,504
Mother employed	433	303	131	413	287	126
Both employed	13,035	7,497	5,538	13,673	7,836	5,837
One unemployed	1,254	643	612	1,239	635	604
Father unemployed	505	285	220	483	267	216
Mother unemployed	749	358	392	756	368	388
With no employed parent	1,140	618	521	1,077	564	513
Father unemployed	398	146	252	381	140	240
Mother unemployed	46	29	17	39	28	11
Both unemployed	125	58	67	115	43	72
Neither in labor force	571	385	185	542	353	190
Families maintained by women	5,875	3,682	2,193	6,134	3,754	2,380
Mother employed	3,467	2,467	1,000	3,637	2,594	1,043
Mother not employed	2,409	1,215	1,193	2,496	1,160	1,336
Unemployed	511	296	214	524	258	266
Not in labor force	1,898	919	979	1,972	902	1,070
Families maintained by men	832	556	277	897	592	304
Father employed	704	471	233	729	486	243
Father not employed	128	85	43	168	106	61
Unemployed	63	35	28	81	43	38
Not in labor force	65	50	15	87	63	23
Total families with unemployed parents	2,397	1,207	1,190	2,379	1,147	1,231

Table 5. Employment status of persons in families by family relationship, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	IV 1984					IV 1985				
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed			Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed		
			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)
TOTAL										
In families	145,282	64.9	6,676	7.1	66.8	145,946	65.4	6,505	6.8	67.5
In married-couple families	121,877	65.5	4,651	5.8	74.9	122,153	66.1	4,539	5.6	75.9
Husbands	50,082	79.0	1,610	4.1	56.1	50,424	78.7	1,529	3.9	57.3
Wives	50,082	53.9	1,405	5.2	81.8	50,424	55.2	1,356	4.9	83.3
Other family member(s)	21,713	61.2	1,636	12.3	87.5	21,305	62.1	1,654	12.5	87.1
In families maintained by women	18,597	59.7	1,672	15.1	46.7	18,798	59.9	1,579	14.0	46.2
Householder	9,788	60.8	622	10.5	16.8	10,055	60.7	613	10.0	16.6
Other family member(s)	8,809	58.4	1,050	20.4	64.4	8,743	58.9	966	18.8	65.0
In families maintained by men	4,808	68.5	354	10.7	55.9	4,995	67.8	387	11.4	55.0
Householder	2,324	75.4	135	7.7	30.4	2,436	75.7	146	7.9	27.9
Other family member(s)	2,484	62.0	219	14.2	71.9	2,559	60.3	241	15.6	71.4
White										
In families	125,794	65.2	4,971	6.1	69.5	126,113	65.8	4,785	5.8	70.7
In married-couple families	109,572	65.5	3,869	5.4	74.8	109,602	66.1	3,694	5.1	76.5
Husbands	45,437	79.0	1,368	3.8	55.2	45,625	78.8	1,263	3.5	57.7
Wives	45,419	53.1	1,187	4.9	82.4	45,585	54.4	1,144	4.6	84.4
Other family member(s)	18,716	62.6	1,314	11.2	88.3	18,392	63.4	1,287	11.0	88.0
In families maintained by women	12,504	61.4	870	11.3	49.2	12,591	61.8	813	10.4	48.6
Householder	6,694	61.7	329	8.0	20.8	6,841	61.6	338	8.0	21.1
Other family member(s)	5,810	61.1	541	15.2	66.5	5,750	62.0	475	13.3	68.2
In families maintained by men	3,718	69.0	232	9.0	56.9	3,920	69.4	278	10.2	57.9
Householder	1,814	76.0	98	7.1	31.4	1,935	77.3	109	7.3	28.3
Other family member(s)	1,904	62.2	134	11.3	75.2	1,985	61.7	169	13.8	77.3
Black										
In families	15,337	62.5	1,492	15.6	58.3	15,688	62.4	1,504	15.4	57.5
In married-couple families	8,884	66.3	630	10.7	77.3	9,114	66.5	685	11.3	73.9
Husbands	3,405	76.9	181	6.9	67.1	3,546	76.5	213	7.9	56.7
Wives	3,327	64.2	174	8.1	77.2	3,467	63.0	167	7.7	78.2
Other family member(s)	2,152	53.0	275	24.1	84.4	2,101	55.4	305	26.2	83.2
In families maintained by women	5,638	55.7	767	24.4	43.7	5,715	55.9	731	22.9	43.6
Householder	2,858	58.9	278	16.5	12.4	2,970	59.0	258	14.7	10.7
Other family member(s)	2,780	52.4	489	33.6	61.6	2,745	52.5	473	32.8	61.5
In families maintained by men	815	67.1	96	17.6	50.0	859	61.4	86	16.3	47.7
Householder	403	73.3	28	9.5	([1])	407	68.3	27	9.7	([1])
Other family member(s)	412	61.4	68	27.1	60.9	452	55.3	59	23.8	([1])
Hispanic origin										
In families	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])	9,748	62.8	659	10.8	66.8
In married-couple families	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])	7,420	64.9	467	9.7	75.6
Husbands	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])	2,813	84.8	156	6.5	54.1
Wives	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])	2,931	49.6	123	8.5	83.3
Other family member(s)	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])	1,676	57.9	188	19.3	88.7
In families maintained by women	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])	1,812	51.3	140	15.1	41.4
Householder	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])	972	48.9	57	12.0	([1])
Other family member(s)	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])	840	54.0	83	18.3	59.2
In families maintained by men	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])	516	73.1	52	13.8	([1])
Householder	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])	238	81.3	25	13.0	([1])
Other family member(s)	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])	278	66.3	27	14.7	([1])

[1] Data not shown where base is less than 60,000.

[2] Data on Hispanic families for 1984 are not available on a revised basis that reflects the adjustments to the population totals introduced in January 1985.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	IV 1984	IV 1985	IV 1984	IV 1985	IV 1984	IV 1985
TOTAL						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	41,403	41,775	100.0	100.0	$514	$534
One earner	18,415	18,177	44.5	43.5	331	333
Two or more earners	22,988	23,597	55.5	56.5	677	705
Married-couple families	33,599	33,741	100.0	100.0	569	594
One earner	13,193	12,840	39.3	38.1	378	385
Husband	10,314	9,862	30.7	29.2	425	446
Wife	2,166	2,185	6.4	6.5	204	211
Other family member	713	793	2.1	2.4	215	202
Two or more earners	20,406	20,901	60.7	61.9	696	729
Husband and wife only	14,458	14,915	43.0	44.2	666	698
Husband, wife, and other family member(s)	3,188	3,270	9.5	9.7	888	950
Husband and other family member(s)	2,164	2,091	6.4	6.2	702	709
Wife and other family member(s)	463	475	1.4	1.4	437	446
Other family members only	132	150	.4	.4	422	535
Families maintained by women	6,116	6,330	100.0	100.0	288	304
One earner	4,214	4,343	68.9	68.6	227	238
Householder	3,275	3,418	53.5	54.0	238	247
Other family member	940	926	15.4	14.6	188	199
Two or more earners	1,902	1,987	31.1	31.4	479	495
Families maintained by men	1,688	1,703	100.0	100.0	452	448
One earner	1,008	994	59.7	58.3	359	347
Householder	777	785	46.0	46.1	390	391
Other family member	231	209	13.7	12.3	216	212
Two or more earners	681	709	40.3	41.7	640	620
White						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	35,678	36,005	100.0	100.0	532	558
One earner	15,596	15,389	43.7	42.7	353	360
Two or more earners	20,081	20,616	56.3	57.3	689	718
Married-couple families	30,082	30,170	100.0	100.0	577	603
One earner	11,946	11,628	39.7	38.5	386	397
Husband	9,465	9,070	31.5	30.1	436	460
Wife	1,839	1,863	6.1	6.2	206	212
Two or more earners	18,136	18,542	60.3	61.5	703	738
Husband and wife only	12,634	13,156	42.7	43.6	674	707
Families maintained by women	4,323	4,501	100.0	100.0	306	325
One earner	2,882	2,990	66.7	66.4	241	250
Two or more earners	1,441	1,512	33.3	33.6	486	502
Families maintained by men	1,273	1,334	100.0	100.0	473	473
One earner	768	771	60.3	57.8	373	372
Two or more earners	505	562	39.7	42.2	678	637
Black						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	4,599	4,713	100.0	100.0	381	378
One earner	2,314	2,337	50.3	49.6	226	230
Two or more earners	2,285	2,377	49.7	50.4	570	587
Married-couple families	2,624	2,700	100.0	100.0	478	491
One earner	882	869	33.6	32.2	273	249
Husband	554	536	21.1	19.9	333	287
Wife	282	255	10.8	9.5	188	201
Two or more earners	1,743	1,832	66.4	67.8	611	619
Husband and wife only	1,274	1,383	48.5	51.2	586	597
Families maintained by women	1,641	1,709	100.0	100.0	242	256
One earner	1,233	1,276	75.1	74.7	201	213
Two or more earners	408	433	24.9	25.3	440	457
Families maintained by men	334	304	100.0	100.0	406	362
One earner	200	192	59.8	63.1	325	309
Two or more earners	134	112	40.2	36.9	542	486

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	IV 1984	IV 1985	IV 1984	IV 1985	IV 1984	IV 1985
Hispanic origin						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	(2)	2,855	(2)	100.0	(2)	$402
One earner	(2)	1,418	(2)	49.7	(2)	265
Two or more earners	(2)	1,437	(2)	50.3	(2)	568
Married-couple families	(2)	2,189	(2)	100.0	(2)	438
One earner	(2)	995	(2)	45.5	(2)	278
Husband	(2)	843	(2)	38.5	(2)	292
Wife	(2)	99	(2)	4.5	(2)	(3)
Two or more earners	(2)	1,194	(2)	54.5	(2)	617
Husband and wife only	(2)	768	(2)	35.1	(2)	562
Families maintained by women	(2)	490	(2)	100.0	(2)	284
One earner	(2)	319	(2)	65.1	(2)	223
Two or more earners	(2)	171	(2)	34.9	(2)	444
Families maintained by men	(2)	175	(2)	100.0	(2)	353
One earner	(2)	104	(2)	59.1	(2)	263
Two or more earners	(2)	72	(2)	40.9	(2)	(3)

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

[2] Data on Hispanic families for 1984 are not available on a revised basis that reflects the adjustments to the population totals introduced in January 1985.

[3] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

NOTE: Data on families for 1984 reflect revised editing and weighting procedures and may differ slightly from previously published data. Moreover, data on median weekly earnings are now derived using $50 centered intervals rather than the $10 intervals previously used; data for 1984 have been recalculated. Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 7. Families with unemployed members and wage and salary earners by type of family and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	IV 1984	IV 1985	IV 1984	IV 1985	IV 1984	IV 1985
Families with unemployment and wage and salary earners[1]	3,758	3,663	--	--	$349	$350
Married-couple families	2,881	2,818	100.0	100.0	381	379
Husband unemployed	856	778	29.7	27.6	218	213
Wife only earner	686	617	23.8	21.9	206	203
Wife and other earner(s)	97	95	3.4	3.4	([2])	([2])
Other earners only	73	66	2.5	2.3	([2])	([2])
Wife unemployed	1,032	987	35.8	35.0	383	393
Husband only earner	850	830	29.5	29.4	359	348
Husband and other earner(s)	159	145	5.5	5.2	566	610
Other earners only	23	11	.8	.4	([2])	([2])
Other members unemployed	992	1,053	34.4	37.4	586	542
Husband or wife earners	444	442	15.4	15.7	471	409
Husband and wife earners	511	542	17.7	19.2	739	748
Other combinations of earners	37	70	1.3	2.5	([2])	([2])
Families maintained by women	705	638	100.0	100.0	242	265
Householder unemployed	115	89	16.3	14.0	169	([2])
Other member(s) unemployed	590	549	83.7	86.0	257	265
Families maintained by men	173	207	100.0	100.0	394	334
Householder unemployed	40	41	22.9	19.6	([2])	([2])
Other member(s) unemployed	133	167	77.1	80.4	439	427

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

[2] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

NOTE: Data on families for 1984 reflect revised editing and weighting procedures and may differ slightly from previously published data. Moreover, data on median weekly earnings are now derived using $50 centered intervals rather than the $10 intervals previously used; data for 1984 have been recalculated.

Table 8. Families by employment status of members and type of family, annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	1984	1985	1984	1985
Married-couple families	49,737	49,991	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	7,367	7,466	14.8	14.9
With at least one member in the labor force	42,370	42,526	85.2	85.1
No member employed	996	920	2.0	1.8
Some member employed	41,374	41,606	83.2	83.2
Husband only	12,668	12,274	25.5	24.6
Wife only	2,358	2,368	4.7	4.7
Husband and wife	21,922	22,550	44.1	45.1
Husband and wife only	17,251	17,761	34.7	35.5
Other combinations	4,426	4,414	8.9	8.8
Families maintained by women	9,897	10,122	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	2,465	2,484	24.9	24.5
With at least one member in the labor force	7,432	7,638	75.1	75.5
No member employed	781	801	7.9	7.9
Some member employed	6,652	6,837	67.2	67.5
Householder employed	5,397	5,540	54.5	54.7
Householder only	3,410	3,463	34.5	34.2
Householder and other(s)	1,987	2,077	20.1	20.5
Other combinations	1,255	1,297	12.7	12.8
Families maintained by men	2,247	2,395	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	273	281	12.1	11.7
With at least one member in the labor force	1,974	2,114	87.9	88.3
No member employed	132	144	5.9	6.0
Some member employed	1,842	1,970	82.0	82.3
Householder employed	1,558	1,680	69.3	70.1
Householder only	825	913	36.7	38.1
Householder and other(s)	733	767	32.6	32.0
Other combinations	284	290	12.6	12.1

Table 9. Families with children under 18 years old by the employment status of parent(s) and type of family, annual averages

(In thousands)

Characteristic	1984			1985		
	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old
Total families	30,953	16,940	14,014	31,158	17,003	14,155
Married-couple families	24,130	12,621	11,508	24,080	12,587	11,494
With employed parent(s)	22,937	11,997	10,940	22,954	12,004	10,951
Neither unemployed	21,612	11,353	10,258	21,684	11,370	10,315
Father employed	8,710	3,817	4,893	8,349	3,630	4,719
Mother employed	451	317	134	429	302	127
Both employed	12,451	7,219	5,231	12,906	7,438	5,469
One unemployed	1,325	643	682	1,270	634	636
Father unemployed	559	293	266	504	265	239
Mother unemployed	766	350	416	766	369	397
With no employed parent	1,193	625	568	1,125	582	543
Father unemployed	430	149	281	393	138	254
Mother unemployed	44	25	19	40	27	14
Both unemployed	127	62	65	118	52	66
Neither in labor force	592	389	203	574	365	209
Families maintained by women	5,987	3,756	2,231	6,147	3,800	2,346
Mother employed	3,548	2,541	1,007	3,647	2,620	1,027
Mother not employed	2,439	1,216	1,223	2,499	1,180	1,319
Unemployed	518	304	214	542	292	250
Not in labor force	1,921	912	1,009	1,957	888	1,069
Families maintained by men	837	562	275	931	616	316
Father employed	694	474	220	766	507	258
Father not employed	142	87	55	166	108	58
Unemployed	65	36	29	79	45	34
Not in labor force	77	51	26	87	63	24
Total families with unemployed parents	2,509	1,219	1,290	2,442	1,188	1,254

Table 10. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	1984	1985	1984	1985	1984	1985
TOTAL						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	40,944	41,616	100.0	100.0	$499	$522
One earner	18,838	18,775	46.0	45.1	323	333
Two or more earners	22,106	22,841	54.0	54.9	660	692
Married-couple families	33,070	33,459	100.0	100.0	548	582
One earner	13,532	13,347	40.9	39.9	371	385
Husband	10,604	10,346	32.1	30.9	418	440
Wife	2,220	2,243	6.7	6.7	205	217
Other family member	708	758	2.1	2.3	197	204
Two or more earners	19,537	20,112	59.1	60.1	682	715
Husband and wife only	13,564	14,019	41.0	41.9	650	684
Husband, wife, and other family member(s)	3,130	3,242	9.5	9.7	893	940
Husband and other family member(s)	2,182	2,159	6.6	6.5	685	689
Wife and other family member(s)	498	514	1.5	1.5	424	454
Other family members only	162	176	.5	.5	413	468
Families maintained by women	6,294	6,470	100.0	100.0	284	297
One earner	4,343	4,397	69.0	68.0	227	234
Householder	3,366	3,432	53.5	53.0	235	243
Other family member	977	965	15.5	14.9	199	200
Two or more earners	1,951	2,073	31.0	32.0	455	487
Families maintained by men	1,581	1,688	100.0	100.0	421	450
One earner	963	1,031	60.9	61.1	334	346
Householder	738	809	46.7	47.9	374	390
Other family member	224	222	14.2	13.2	214	212
Two or more earners	618	656	39.1	38.9	611	625
White						
Families with wage or salary earners [1]	35,331	35,848	100.0	100.0	514	543
One earner	15,996	15,972	45.3	44.6	344	357
Two or more earners	19,336	19,876	54.7	55.4	671	702
Married-couple families	29,585	29,899	100.0	100.0	557	589
One earner	12,218	12,097	41.3	40.5	381	395
Husband	9,703	9,496	32.8	31.8	426	452
Wife	1,879	1,925	6.4	6.4	207	218
Two or more earners	17,368	17,802	58.7	59.5	689	723
Husband and wife only	12,017	12,394	40.6	41.5	656	691
Families maintained by women	4,510	4,616	100.0	100.0	299	311
One earner	3,033	3,068	67.3	66.5	239	244
Two or more earners	1,476	1,548	32.7	33.5	463	497
Families maintained by men	1,236	1,333	100.0	100.0	442	475
One earner	745	806	60.2	60.5	348	369
Two or more earners	491	526	39.8	39.5	630	637
Black						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	4,579	4,668	100.0	100.0	366	378
One earner	2,375	2,334	51.9	50.0	226	235
Two or more earners	2,205	2,334	48.1	50.0	557	582
Married-couple families	2,648	2,671	100.0	100.0	463	487
One earner	967	902	36.5	33.8	260	257
Husband	634	580	23.9	21.7	309	292
Wife	281	257	10.6	9.6	188	206
Two or more earners	1,681	1,769	63.5	66.2	600	622
Husband and wife only	1,216	1,258	45.9	47.1	582	603
Families maintained by women	1,640	1,703	100.0	100.0	240	259
One earner	1,218	1,242	74.2	72.9	203	213
Two or more earners	422	461	25.8	27.1	412	448
Families maintained by men	292	294	100.0	100.0	365	360
One earner	190	191	65.2	64.9	289	294
Two or more earners	101	103	34.8	35.1	520	521

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 10. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, annual averages—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	1984	1985	1984	1985	1984	1985
Hispanic origin						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	(2)	2,880	(2)	100.0	(2)	$404
One earner	(2)	1,428	(2)	49.6	(2)	265
Two or more earners	(2)	1,452	(2)	50.4	(2)	561
Married-couple families	(2)	2,205	(2)	100.0	(2)	444
One earner	(2)	1,007	(2)	45.7	(2)	285
Husband	(2)	838	(2)	38.0	(2)	304
Wife	(2)	118	(2)	5.3	(2)	185
Two or more earners	(2)	1,198	(2)	54.3	(2)	595
Husband and wife only	(2)	758	(2)	34.4	(2)	559
Families maintained by women	(2)	487	(2)	100.0	(2)	270
One earner	(2)	320	(2)	65.8	(2)	207
Two or more earners	(2)	167	(2)	34.2	(2)	442
Families maintained by men	(2)	188	(2)	100.0	(2)	366
One earner	(2)	100	(2)	53.5	(2)	266
Two or more earners	(2)	87	(2)	46.5	(2)	461

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

[2] Data on Hispanic families for 1984 are not available on a revised basis that reflects the adjustments to the population totals introduced in January 1985.

NOTE: Data on families for 1984 reflect revised editing and weighting procedures and may differ slightly from previously published data. Moreover, data on median weekly earnings are now derived using $50 centered intervals rather than the $10 intervals previously used; data for 1984 have been recalculated. Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

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EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES: THIRD QUARTER 1985

Three-quarters of the Nation's families had at least one member employed full time in the third quarter of 1985, essentially unchanged from a year earlier, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See table A.) Other third-quarter highlights are:

--More than 80 percent of all families, or a total of 50.6 million families, had at least one employed member in the household. Three-fourths of the whites and Hispanics reported having a full-time worker in the household; among blacks, the proportion was two-thirds. (See table 1.)

--No labor force activity was reported in more than 10 million families, largely because members were of retirement age and beyond. In another 1.8 million families, all labor force participants were unemployed. Black families were about 3-1/2 times as likely as white families to be in the latter category. (See table 1.)

--Over four-fifths of all married-couple families contained at least one employed member. In the majority of these families, both husband and wife held jobs. Over the year, the number of these dual-worker families rose by 570,000 to reach 22.4 million. Someone was employed in about two-thirds of the families maintained by a woman, no husband present, and in most cases (4 out of 5) it was the woman herself. (See table 2.)

--The number of married-couple families with unemployment declined by nearly 150,000 to less than 4.4 million in the third quarter. Husbands accounted for most of the decrease. Offsetting the decline in married-couple unemployment was an increase among families maintained by women. (See table 3.)

--About 8 percent of the 31.2 million families with children under 18 contained an unemployed parent. The mother was jobless in about 9-1/2 percent of the families maintained by women while, in married-couple families, 7-1/2 percent had one or both parents unemployed. These

proportions were higher where there were children under age 6 than where the youngest child was 6 to 17 years old. (See table 4.)

--At $520, the median usual weekly wage and salary earnings of families were 3.8 percent above the year-ago level. This exceeded by a small margin the 3.4-percent rise in consumer prices as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U). Earnings of married-couple families ($581) continued to be about twice those of families maintained by women ($296). Median earnings of black families ($376) remained lower than for Hispanic ($410) or white ($542) families. (See table 6.)

Table A. Summary labor force characteristics of families, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	III 1984	III 1985	Change
Total families	61,979	62,666	687
With employed member(s)	50,260	50,643	383
Percent of total families	81.1	80.8	-.3
With member(s) employed full-time	46,626	46,909	283
Percent of total families	75.2	74.9	-.3
With unemployed member(s)	6,298	6,284	-14
Percent with employed member(s)	72.0	71.4	-.6
Percent of total families	10.2	10.0	-.2
With unemployed member(s), none employed	1,765	1,796	31
Percent of total families	2.8	2.9	.1
With no members in the labor force	9,954	10,228	274
Percent with no members under 60 years old	61.4	61.7	.3
Percent of total families	16.1	16.3	.2
With children under 6 years old	14,048	14,240	192
Percent with employed parent(s)	87.8	86.7	-1.1
Percent with employed mother	47.4	48.2	.8
Percent of total families	22.7	22.7	-

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The estimates in this release were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), which provides basic information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment. The survey is conducted monthly for the Bureau of Labor Statistics by the Bureau of the Census from a scientifically selected national sample of households, with coverage in all 50 States and the District of Columbia. The size of the monthly sample is about 59,500 households. The earnings data are collected from one-quarter of the CPS monthly sample and are limited to wages and salaries. The data, therefore, exclude self-employment income.

Reliability

In any sample survey, variations in the data can occur by chance because a sample, rather than the whole of the population, is surveyed. The standard error is a measure of such potential variation. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the survey differs from a figure that would be obtained from a complete census by less than one standard error. The chances are about 90 out of 100 that such a difference would be less than 1.6 standard errors. All statements of comparisons in the text of this release are significant at 1.6 or more standard errors.

Standard errors for numbers and proportions of families can be approximated using tables found in the Household Data section of the Explanatory Notes in Employment and Earnings. Representative standard errors for median family earnings are available from BLS upon request.

Definitions

The principal definitions used in this release are described briefly below.

Family. A family is a group of two or more persons residing together who are related by blood, marriage, or adoption. The count of families is for "primary" families only, that is, the householder and all other persons related to and residing with the householder. Not included are unrelated subfamilies. Families are classified either as married-couple families or families maintained by women or men without spouses.

Householder. A householder is the person in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented.

Children. Children are defined as "own" children, that is, never-married sons, daughters, step-children, and adopted children. Excluded are other related children, such as nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and cousins, and unrelated children.

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Employed. Employed persons are those who during the survey week: (a) Did any work at all as paid civilians; (b) worked in their own business or profession or on their own farms; or (c) worked 15 hours or more as an unpaid worker in a family operated enterprise. Also included are those who were temporarily absent from their jobs because of illness, vacation, bad weather, labor-management disputes, or personal reasons.

Full-time workers. Persons who usually work 35 hours or more per week on their sole or principal job. Persons who work less than 35 hours are part-time workers.

Unemployed. The unemployed are persons who had no employment during the survey week, were available for work at that time and made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the prior 4 weeks. Persons laid off from their former jobs and awaiting recall and those expecting to report to a job within 30 days need not be looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

Civilian labor force. The civilian labor force is the sum of the employed and the unemployed.

Wage and salary workers. Workers who receive wages, salaries, commissions, tips, payment in kind, or piece rates. Persons who report themselves as self-employed, including those whose businesses are incorporated, are excluded from coverage in these earnings data.

Usual weekly earnings. Data on usual weekly earnings are provided from responses to the question, "How much does...USUALLY earn per week at this job before deductions? Include any overtime pay, commissions, or tips usually received." The response is for the worker's sole or principal job, and the term "usual" is as perceived by the respondent. If the respondent asks for a definition of "usual," interviewers are instructed to define the term as more than half the weeks worked during the past 4 or 5 months.

Median weekly earnings. The median of weekly earnings is the value at which 50 percent of the earnings distribution lies above and 50 percent lies below. The estimating procedure places each reported earnings value into intervals which are centered around multiples of $50. The actual value is calculated through linear interpolation of the interval in which the median lies.

Over-the-year changes in the medians for component groups may not necessarily be consistent with the changes estimated for the overall median and therefore are not presented in this release. Circumstances under which this can occur include: (1) Even though medians of component groups may rise, if the lower-earnings group accounts for a sufficiently increased share of the total, the overall median can rise less than for any of the groups; and (2) survey observations tend to be clustered at rounded values, such as $250, $300, and $400, and an estimated median lying in a $50-wide centered interval containing such a cluster changes more slowly than one in non-clustered intervals. For example, if the medians for component groups are not in a cluster but the overall group median is, then the increase in the overall median will be less than for the components.

Table 1. Families by employment status of members, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	III 1984	III 1985	III 1984	III 1985
TOTAL				
Total families	61,979	62,666	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	9,954	10,228	16.1	16.3
With at least one member in the labor force	52,025	52,439	83.9	83.7
No member employed	1,765	1,796	2.8	2.9
Some member employed	50,260	50,643	81.1	80.8
No one unemployed	45,727	46,155	73.8	73.7
One or more employed full time	42,656	42,988	68.8	68.6
Some member unemployed	4,533	4,488	7.3	7.2
One or more employed full time	3,970	3,921	6.4	6.3
White				
Total families	53,693	54,200	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	8,488	8,745	15.8	16.1
With at least one member in the labor force	45,205	45,456	84.2	83.9
No member employed	1,213	1,196	2.3	2.2
Some member employed	43,992	44,259	81.9	81.7
No one unemployed	40,494	40,751	75.4	75.2
One or more employed full time	37,943	38,104	70.7	70.3
Some member unemployed	3,498	3,508	6.5	6.5
One or more employed full time	3,113	3,082	5.8	5.7
Black				
Total families	6,735	6,906	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	1,294	1,276	19.2	18.5
With at least one member in the labor force	5,441	5,630	80.8	81.5
No member employed	502	548	7.5	7.9
Some member employed	4,940	5,082	73.3	73.6
No one unemployed	4,054	4,230	60.2	61.3
One or more employed full time	3,607	3,795	53.6	55.0
Some member unemployed	886	852	13.2	12.3
One or more employed full time	730	727	10.8	10.5
Hispanic origin				
Total families	(1)	3,981	(1)	100.0
With no members in the labor force	(1)	598	(1)	15.0
With at least one member in the labor force	(1)	3,383	(1)	85.0
No member employed	(1)	189	(1)	4.7
Some member employed	(1)	3,194	(1)	80.2
No one unemployed	(1)	2,789	(1)	70.1
One or more employed full time	(1)	2,606	(1)	65.5
Some member unemployed	(1)	405	(1)	10.2
One or more employed full time	(1)	340	(1)	8.5

[1] Data on Hispanic families for 1984 are not available on a revised basis that reflects the adjustments to the population totals introduced in January 1985.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 2. Families by employment status of members and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	III 1984	III 1985	III 1984	III 1985
Married-couple families	49,870	50,185	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	7,339	7,548	14.7	15.0
With at least one member in the labor force	42,531	42,637	85.3	85.0
No member employed	899	842	1.8	1.7
Some member employed	41,631	41,795	83.5	83.3
Husband only	12,832	12,394	25.7	24.7
Wife only	2,198	2,212	4.4	4.4
Husband and wife	21,863	22,431	43.8	44.7
Husband and wife only	16,890	17,363	33.9	34.6
Other combinations	4,738	4,758	9.5	9.5
Families maintained by women	9,851	10,116	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	2,345	2,420	23.8	23.9
With at least one member in the labor force	7,506	7,696	76.2	76.1
No member employed	747	821	7.6	8.1
Some member employed	6,760	6,875	68.6	68.0
Householder employed	5,432	5,526	55.1	54.6
Householder only	3,336	3,360	33.9	33.2
Householder and other(s)	2,096	2,166	21.3	21.4
Other combinations	1,328	1,349	13.5	13.3
Families maintained by men	2,258	2,365	100.0	100.0
With no members in the labor force	270	259	12.0	11.0
With at least one member in the labor force	1,988	2,106	88.0	89.0
No member employed	119	134	5.3	5.7
Some member employed	1,869	1,972	82.8	83.4
Householder employed	1,557	1,674	69.0	70.8
Householder only	787	868	34.9	36.7
Householder and other(s)	770	806	34.1	34.1
Other combinations	312	298	13.8	12.6

Table 3. Families with unemployed members by type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution	
	III 1984	III 1985	III 1984	III 1985
Families with unemployment	6,298	6,284	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	4,533	4,488	72.0	71.4
With no members employed	1,765	1,796	28.0	28.6
Married-couple families	4,494	4,350	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	3,594	3,509	80.0	80.7
With no members employed	899	842	20.0	19.4
With husband unemployed	1,557	1,458	34.6	33.5
Wife employed	798	758	17.8	17.4
Other(s) employed	97	98	2.2	2.3
No one employed	662	601	14.7	13.8
With wife unemployed	1,369	1,367	30.5	31.4
Husband employed	1,235	1,254	27.5	28.8
Other(s) employed	39	17	.9	.4
No one employed	95	96	2.1	2.2
With other member(s) unemployed	1,568	1,525	34.9	35.1
Families maintained by women	1,477	1,606	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	731	785	49.5	48.9
With no members employed	747	821	50.6	51.1
With householder unemployed	615	681	41.6	42.4
Other(s) employed	122	124	8.3	7.7
No one employed	493	557	33.4	34.7
With other member(s) unemployed	862	925	58.4	57.6
Families maintained by men	327	328	100.0	100.0
With one or more members employed	207	194	63.3	59.1
With no members employed	119	134	36.4	40.9
With householder unemployed	124	142	37.9	43.3
Other(s) employed	43	48	13.1	14.6
No one employed	81	94	24.8	28.7
With other member(s) unemployed	203	186	62.1	56.7

Table 4. Families with children under 18 years old by the employment status of parent(s) and type of family, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(In thousands)

Characteristic	III 1984			III 1985		
	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old	Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger	With children under 6 years old
Total families	30,944	16,896	14,048	31,200	16,960	14,240
Married-couple families	24,212	12,608	11,604	24,144	12,626	11,518
With employed parent(s)	23,086	11,997	11,090	23,090	12,062	11,027
Neither unemployed	21,734	11,323	10,412	21,786	11,422	10,364
Father employed	8,942	3,928	5,014	8,605	3,826	4,779
Mother employed	414	292	122	420	297	123
Both employed	12,378	7,103	5,276	12,761	7,299	5,462
One unemployed	1,352	674	678	1,304	640	664
Father unemployed	499	256	243	458	236	222
Mother unemployed	853	418	435	846	404	442
With no employed parent	1,126	610	515	1,054	564	490
Father unemployed	387	141	246	355	132	223
Mother unemployed	55	27	28	40	23	17
Both unemployed	116	55	61	108	50	59
Neither in labor force	568	387	180	551	359	191
Families maintained by women	5,914	3,742	2,171	6,140	3,741	2,399
Mother employed	3,520	2,497	1,023	3,640	2,587	1,053
Mother not employed	2,393	1,245	1,149	2,501	1,155	1,346
Unemployed	515	327	189	578	297	281
Not in labor force	1,878	918	960	1,923	858	1,065
Families maintained by men	818	545	273	916	592	323
Father employed	699	471	228	765	497	269
Father not employed	119	74	44	150	95	55
Unemployed	55	32	22	72	38	34
Not in labor force	64	42	22	78	57	21
Total families with unemployed parents	2,480	1,256	1,224	2,457	1,180	1,278

Table 5. Employment status of persons in families by family relationship, race, and Hispanic origin, quarterly averages not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	III 1984					III 1985				
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed			Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force participation rate	Unemployed		
			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)			Number	Percent of labor force	Percent with employed family member(s)
TOTAL										
In families	144,745	64.9	7,050	7.5	69.4	145,650	65.9	6,698	7.2	69.0
In married-couple families	121,574	66.2	4,974	6.2	77.2	121,714	66.4	4,747	5.9	77.9
Husbands	49,670	79.2	1,557	3.9	57.5	50,165	76.7	1,456	3.7	58.8
Wives	49,670	52.5	1,536	5.9	84.4	50,165	53.3	1,525	5.7	84.3
Other family member(s)	21,634	67.9	1,879	12.7	87.8	21,344	68.4	1,764	12.1	86.2
In families maintained by women	16,754	61.6	1,712	14.6	46.7	19,105	61.9	1,766	15.1	47.9
Householder	9,651	61.4	615	10.2	19.9	10,116	61.4	681	11.0	16.2
Other family member(s)	8,903	62.4	1,097	19.7	64.7	6,969	62.5	1,105	19.7	66.2
In families maintained by men	4,773	68.7	363	11.1	60.3	4,631	70.0	365	10.8	57.0
Householder	2,256	74.5	124	7.4	34.6	2,365	76.7	142	7.6	34.0
Other family member(s)	2,515	63.6	239	14.9	73.5	2,466	63.5	223	14.2	72.0
White										
In families	125,516	65.9	5,102	6.2	71.5	125,658	66.2	5,056	6.1	71.8
In married-couple families	109,249	66.1	4,002	5.5	76.9	109,262	66.4	3,884	5.4	77.5
Husbands	45,204	79.2	1,305	3.6	56.6	45,436	76.7	1,216	3.4	57.5
Wives	45,228	51.6	1,292	5.5	65.0	45,435	52.6	1,304	5.5	84.5
Other family member(s)	18,617	69.1	1,405	10.6	88.2	16,411	69.6	1,362	10.6	88.4
In families maintained by women	12,596	63.7	664	10.6	49.6	12,676	63.4	933	11.4	51.6
Householder	6,725	62.1	315	7.5	22.4	6,923	61.6	348	6.1	22.6
Other family member(s)	5,673	65.4	549	14.3	65.5	5,955	65.3	585	15.1	68.8
In families maintained by men	3,669	69.7	236	9.2	60.2	3,696	70.6	236	9.1	58.6
Householder	1,756	75.4	88	6.7	38.5	1,836	77.7	101	7.1	36.2
Other family member(s)	1,913	64.4	148	12.0	72.9	1,660	64.1	137	11.5	75.3
Black										
In families	15,572	64.0	1,724	17.3	62.5	15,776	64.1	1,634	16.2	59.9
In married-couple families	8,980	67.7	803	13.2	78.3	9,176	67.0	711	11.6	79.9
Husbands	3,429	77.4	193	7.3	62.7	3,536	76.6	199	7.3	67.1
Wives	3,346	61.6	196	9.6	77.7	3,465	60.6	176	8.4	61.7
Other family member(s)	2,205	61.7	412	30.3	65.9	2,175	60.9	336	25.4	66.6
In families maintained by women	5,700	57.9	811	24.6	47.7	5,703	58.6	617	24.4	43.2
Householder	2,697	60.0	288	16.6	17.7	2,944	60.6	316	17.6	12.5
Other family member(s)	2,603	55.8	523	33.5	64.2	2,759	56.5	499	32.0	62.7
In families maintained by men	892	65.9	110	16.7	56.4	895	69.5	106	17.0	54.7
Householder	419	71.6	29	9.6	16.6	431	74.8	26	8.6	26.6
Other family member(s)	473	60.9	61	28.0	70.7	464	64.4	76	26.0	64.6
Hispanic origin										
In families	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	9,683	64.5	668	10.7	67.1
In married-couple families	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	7,452	66.3	476	9.7	73.2
Husbands	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	2,765	66.5	163	6.8	52.7
Wives	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	2,927	50.5	130	6.6	80.7
Other family member(s)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	1,740	60.6	185	17.6	85.8
In families maintained by women	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	1,745	52.9	155	16.6	47.1
Householder	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	956	46.2	56	12.5	21.5
Other family member(s)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	769	58.6	97	21.0	62.9
In families maintained by men	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	466	77.4	35	9.3	71.4
Householder	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	226	63.1	14	7.6	40.4
Other family member(s)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	260	72.4	21	11.0	91.1

[1] Data on Hispanic families for 1984 are not available on a revised basis that reflects the adjustments to the population totals introduced in January 1985.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	III 1984	III 1985	III 1984	III 1985	III 1984	III 1985
TOTAL						
Families with wage or salary earners 1/	41,281	42,021	100.0	100.0	$501	$520
One earner	19,086	19,199	46.2	45.7	325	337
Two or more earners	22,195	22,822	53.8	54.3	665	693
Married-couple families	33,208	33,683	100.0	100.0	553	581
One earner	13,753	13,728	41.4	40.8	375	388
Husband	11,004	10,866	33.1	32.3	418	438
Wife	2,102	2,131	6.3	6.3	209	216
Other family member	647	731	1.9	2.2	194	207
Two or more earners	19,456	19,956	58.6	59.2	688	718
Husband and wife only	13,167	13,594	39.7	40.4	650	683
Husband, wife, and other family member(s)	3,218	3,318	9.7	9.9	921	967
Husband and other family member(s)	2,378	2,386	7.2	7.1	700	688
Wife and other family member(s)	475	505	1.4	1.5	453	460
Other family members only	217	154	.7	.5	413	450
Families maintained by women	6,493	6,636	100.0	100.0	289	296
One earner	4,399	4,446	67.7	67.0	231	232
Householder	3,352	3,455	51.6	52.1	243	239
Other family member	1,047	991	16.1	14.9	199	206
Two or more earners	2,095	2,191	32.3	33.0	450	490
Families maintained by men	1,580	1,701	100.0	100.0	417	434
One earner	935	1,026	59.2	60.3	312	323
Householder	675	789	42.7	46.4	346	373
Other family member	260	237	16.5	13.9	233	214
Two or more earners	645	675	40.8	39.7	636	602
White						
Families with wage or salary earners 1/	35,429	35,981	100.0	100.0	517	542
One earner	16,090	16,253	45.4	45.2	345	358
Two or more earners	19,339	19,729	54.6	54.8	675	706
Married-couple families	29,598	29,982	100.0	100.0	562	590
One earner	12,356	12,347	41.7	41.2	384	399
Husband	10,016	9,875	33.8	32.9	427	452
Wife	1,768	1,826	6.0	6.1	210	216
Two or more earners	17,242	17,635	58.3	58.8	694	726
Husband and wife only	11,636	12,024	39.3	40.1	654	690
Families maintained by women	4,613	4,697	100.0	100.0	303	306
One earner	3,042	3,111	65.9	66.2	244	240
Two or more earners	1,571	1,585	34.1	33.8	463	511
Families maintained by men	1,218	1,303	100.0	100.0	450	452
One earner	692	794	56.8	60.9	316	345
Two or more earners	526	509	43.2	39.1	646	621
Black						
Families with wage or salary earners 1/	4,730	4,858	100.0	100.0	362	376
One earner	2,471	2,438	52.3	50.2	231	238
Two or more earners	2,258	2,420	47.7	49.8	555	563
Married-couple families	2,688	2,766	100.0	100.0	468	477
One earner	1,003	1,007	37.3	36.4	262	271
Husband	688	672	25.6	24.3	295	308
Wife	266	257	9.9	9.3	198	198
Two or more earners	1,685	1,760	62.7	63.6	606	607
Husband and wife only	1,168	1,192	43.4	43.1	594	606
Families maintained by women	1,737	1,761	100.0	100.0	243	260
One earner	1,259	1,244	72.5	70.6	206	211
Two or more earners	478	517	27.5	29.4	397	438
Families maintained by men	304	331	100.0	100.0	360	395
One earner	209	188	68.5	56.8	304	289
Two or more earners	96	143	31.5	43.2	(2)	515

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted-Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	III 1984	III 1985	III 1984	III 1985	III 1984	III 1985
Hispanic origin						
Families with wage or salary earners1/	(3)	2,941	(3)	100.0	(3)	$410
One earner	(3)	1,387	(3)	47.2	(3)	260
Two or more earners	(3)	1,554	(3)	52.8	(3)	584
Married-couple families	(3)	2,242	(3)	100.0	(3)	465
One earner	(3)	958	(3)	42.7	(3)	290
Husband	(3)	810	(3)	36.1	(3)	307
Wife	(3)	127	(3)	5.7	(3)	167
Two or more earners	(3)	1,284	(3)	57.3	(3)	613
Husband and wife only	(3)	788	(3)	35.2	(3)	573
Families maintained by women	(3)	509	(3)	100.0	(3)	269
One earner	(3)	331	(3)	65.0	(3)	194
Two or more earners	(3)	178	(3)	35.0	(3)	417
Families maintained by men	(3)	190	(3)	100.0	(3)	323
One earner	(3)	99	(3)	51.9	(3)	(2)
Two or more earners	(3)	91	(3)	48.1	(3)	(2)

1/ Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.
2/ Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.
3/ Data on Hispanic families for 1984 are not available on a revised basis that reflects the adjustments to the population totals introduced in January 1985.
NOTE: Data on families for 1984 reflect revised editing and weighting procedures and may differ slightly from previously published data. Moreover, data on median weekly earnings are now derived using $50 centered intervals rather than the $10 intervals previously used; data for 1984 have been recalculated. Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 7. Families with unemployed members and wage and salary earners by type of family and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	III 1984	III 1985	III 1984	III 1985	III 1984	III 1985
Families with unemployment and wage and salary earners1/	4,047	4,011	--	--	$347	$361
Married-couple families	3,228	3,166	100.0	100.0	373	395
Husband unemployed	891	879	27.6	27.8	219	233
Wife only earner	702	658	21.8	20.8	211	222
Wife and other earner(s)	111	130	3.4	4.1	419	419
Other earners only	78	91	2.4	2.9	(2)	(2)
Wife unemployed	1,197	1,148	37.1	36.3	371	398
Husband only earner	1,009	970	31.3	30.6	347	367
Husband and other earner(s)	140	163	4.3	5.1	661	615
Other earners only	48	16	1.5	.5	(2)	(2)
Other members unemployed	1,140	1,139	35.3	36.0	578	609
Husband or wife earners	514	553	15.9	17.5	418	459
Husband and wife earners	576	558	17.8	17.6	711	765
Other combinations of earners	50	29	1.5	.9	(2)	(2)
Families maintained by women	647	679	100.0	100.0	233	246
Householder unemployed	114	82	17.6	12.1	143	(2)
Other member(s) unemployed	533	597	82.4	87.9	255	256
Families maintained by men	172	166	100.0	100.0	423	378
Householder unemployed	36	51	20.9	30.5	(2)	(2)
Other member(s) unemployed	136	115	79.1	69.5	500	400

1/ Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.
2/ Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.
NOTE: Data on families for 1984 reflect revised editing procedures and may differ slightly from previously published data. Moreover, data on median weekly earnings are now derived using $50 centered intervals rather than the $10 intervals previously used; data for 1984 have been recalculated.

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